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WASHTENAW

JEWISH NEWS

June/July/August 2010 Sivan/Tammuz/Av/Elul Volume XXXIII: Number 9 FREE

Ed Goldman takes over as Jewish Federation president

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

Ed Goldman succeeded Susan Fisher as president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor at the Federation Annual Meeting on May 26.

Fisher, a retired business executive, had led the Federation board of directors from June 2008 and stewarded the Federation through a change in executive leadership, the collapse of the stock market and the modernization of the Jewish Community Foundation. In addition, during Fisher's tenure, Federation's programmatic offerings grew, a teen philanthropy program was introduced, Israel programs and Partnership 2000 were expanded and collaboration with other Jewish communal organizations increased.

"Susan was an amazing leader on many levels," says Federation Executive Director David Shtulman. "She insisted the Federation operate like a true business with excellent financial controls, accountability and transparency to donors, on the one hand, and that the Federation also looked outward to become an integral part of the greater Jewish community and seek out strategic synergies, on the other."

Fisher set an example during her term for hands-on leadership. She never missed a meeting and she participated in every committee. Whether it was setting up for events or hosting out of town guests, Fisher never expected anyone to do something she was not ready to do herself.

One might think that Fisher would look forward to a break after giving so much of herself to the Federation over the last two years. Not so. "I have enjoyed my role as Federation president immensely and I am sorry it is coming to an end," she says. "While my term as president is ending, my term on the Federation board is not, and I plan to stay just as involved though my role and responsibilities will change."

Susan Fisher

Ed Goldman

Goldman, assistant professor at the University of Michigan Health Services Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, is well prepared as he takes over the presidency. A long-time member of the Federation board, Goldman has served on the Federation allocations committee, Israel/Overseas committee, personnel committee and is just finishing a year as campaign co-chair. He brings a great commitment and depth of understanding of Jewish communal issues to his new appointment.

"I look forward to this appointment with enthusiasm," states Goldman. "Ann Arbor has a great Jewish community and a dedicated Federation. I am fortunate to follow such accomplished leaders as Susan and the Federation presidents that preceded her. I hope to continue the tradition of strengthening and growing Ann Arbor's Jewish community life just as they have before me." ■

Apples & Honey at the JCC August 29

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Apples and Honey, an annual family event that celebrates the Jewish fall holidays, will take place on Sunday, August 29, from noon–3 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Everyone is invited free of charge.

Participants will be able to taste apples and honey, symbolic of the new year. There will be many children's activities, including bouncers, games, shofar blowing and arts and crafts. Clowns and jugglers will entertain guests while face-painting and making balloon animals. Israeli food, kosher baked goods and lunch will be available for purchase, along with gifts and Judaica items.

This program brings together many local Jewish organizations to provide information about their purpose and to educate participants about the upcoming holidays: Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year; Yom Kippur, the day of atonement; and Sukkot, the fall harvest festival.

A special newcomers' table featuring the Shalom Ann Arbor program will welcome new JCC members and new arrivals to the Ann Arbor community.

Reservations are required. For more information on sponsoring a table or to register for Apples and Honey, call 971-0990 or email halyeaisner@jccfed.org.

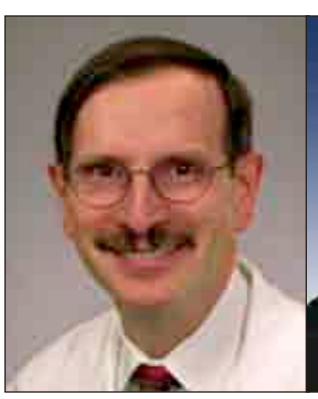
Health Care Reform focus of Maimonides Society lunch and panel discussion

Cindy Adams, special to the WJN

Rumors are rising. Myths are multiplying. Will the states be able to cope with the new national health care legislation? Why were certain compromises made? Learn the facts at the Maimonides Society's spring event on Sunday, June 13, 11:45 a.m.–2 p.m. The panel discussion, with time for questions. will be held at the Kellogg Eye Center Auditorium, 1000 Wall Street.

Dr. Jonathan Trobe and Dr. Barry Nemon, co-chairs of the Jewish Federation's Maimonides Society, coordinated the program and have announced the participation of John Dingell (D), U.S. Representative for Michigan's 15th District; Marianne Udow-Phillips, director of University of Michigan Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation; and John Billi, M.D., University of Michigan associate dean for Clinical Affairs.

Registration will begin at 11:45 a.m., and the program will include a catered lunch from noon–12:45 p.m. The panel discussion will take place from 12:45–2 p.m. Admission is $5 per person at the door, free of charge if pre-registered by June 10 at jewishannarbor.org



Dr. John Billi

U.S. Rep John Dingell

Marianne Udow-Phillips

The Maimonides Society is a national movement that recognizes physicians and dentists as holding an honored position in our communities. The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor established its chapter of the Maimonides Society in order to recognize, honor and strengthen that status. The Society supports the bonds between health care professionals, the Jewish community and Israel, through educational, social, and philanthropic activities. The Maimonides Society is generously sponsored by 5/3 Bank. ■

For more information and registration, contact Cindy Adams at 677-0100 or cindy@jewishannarbor.org.

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Community

Grillin' 2010 supports local food programs

Mary H. Schlitt, special to the WJN

Join in the fight against hunger by purchasing a ticket to Food Gatherers' annual benefit picnic, Grillin' 2010, on Sunday, June 13, from 3–8 p.m., at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds. More than 150 volunteers and dozens of area restaurants will serve up a grilled feast for the whole family. Musical entertainment will be provided by Abigail Stauffer, Bull Halsey, Jamie Register and the Glendales, and George Bedard and the Kingpins. Kids activities by the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum and a food-inspired silent auction will round out the day's activities.

Food Gatherers is Washtenaw County's food bank and food rescue program. Food Gatherers exists to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes in the community by reducing food waste through the rescue and distribution of perishable and non-perishable food, coordinating with other hunger relief providers, educating the public about hunger, and developing new food resources. Since its inception in 1988, Food Gatherers has distributed 40 million pounds of food for the community. Annually, Food Gatherers now rescues and distributes more than five million pounds of food to 150 non-profit programs providing emergency food resources to those in need throughout Washtenaw County. For a list of food donors and recipient, agencies or to learn how you can become involved in the fight against hunger locally, visit the web at www.foodgatherers.org or call 761-2796.

Tickets for Grillin' can be purchased online at www.foodgatherers.org/grillin2010_buyonline.htm, by phone at 761-2796, or at Zingerman's Deli, Bakehouse or Roadhouse, or The Saline or Dexter Picture Frame Company. The cost is $50 for adults ($60 at the door), $10 kids (ages 3-13), and under age 3 are free. ■

Thanks for warm welcome

Before my daughter and I moved to Ann Arbor two years ago, everyone told me "You'll love it!" At the time, I mistakenly thought they meant the city itself. In reality, however, it is the people and the Jewish community that make Ann Arbor so lovable.

Moving back to Boston to be closer to family is bittersweet because we cannot take our new friends and colleagues with us. I will be forever grateful to the teachers at the Hebrew Day School who fueled Shira's love of learning. My fellow Fellows and the incredible staff at the Frankel Center offered unparalleled support and inspiration. All of the JCC team players made our lives richer simply be being themselves. The exceptional leaders at TBE and BIC kept our spirits soaring. We have been very well nourished.

Thank you, one and all, for welcoming us into your fold. We will miss you!

Keren R. McGinity, Ph.D.

JCC Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival

The 9th Annual Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival was a great success and was enjoyed by hundreds of community members. Highlights included a sponsor reception, two Lunch and Learn events and many special guests who came from all over the country to discuss their films. The JCC would like to thank the community for their support.

Leslie and Norm Bash, Russ Collins, David and Leslie Magidson at the 2010 Jewish Film Festival

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

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The deadline for the
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Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

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Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan at JCC

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

Each year the Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan spends a day entertaining and educating the campers at Camp Raanana, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's summer day camp for children entering grades K-8. After spending the day at camp, the Israel Scouts will perform for the entire community at the JCC, sponsored by the Benard L. Maas Foundation.

The Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan, Summer 2009

The Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan is part of a larger delegation of approximately 100 teenage scouts who travel to North America each summer to represent the land of Israel. Using song, dance, and storytelling, the Israel Scouts celebrate the Jewish heritage and bring the sights and sounds of Israel to life.

This summer the Israel Scouts will be performing at the JCC on Wednesday, July 28. The evening will start at 6 p.m. with a pizza dinner. At 7 p.m., the Scouts will entertain the crowd with a free performance.

The cost for the pizza dinner is $6 per person/$18 per family for JCC members and camp families or $8 per person/$24 per family for community members. Reservations for the dinner are required by Monday, July 26. Registration forms will be available at www.jccannarbor.org and at the JCC.

Host families are needed to host the members of the Israel Scouts Friendship Caravan for one night on Wednesday, July 28. If you are interested in hosting, contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990. ■

Rabbi Dobrusin honored by JTS

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin was honored by The Jewish Theological Seminary, at the convocation on May 27 in New York. A distinguished cadre of 50 Conservative rabbis received honorary doctorates from JTS.

The rabbis, who have served as spiritual leaders and Jewish scholars for at least 25 years, were recognized for their contributions to Jewish life. Rabbi Dobrusin joined his colleagues from around the world, with rabbis coming from 16 states, Canada, England and Israel.

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin has served as rabbi at Beth Israel Congregation since 1988. Born and raised in Boston, Rabbi Dobrusin was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1982 and served as rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel in Lansdale, Pennsylvania, from 1982–1988 before moving to Ann Arbor.

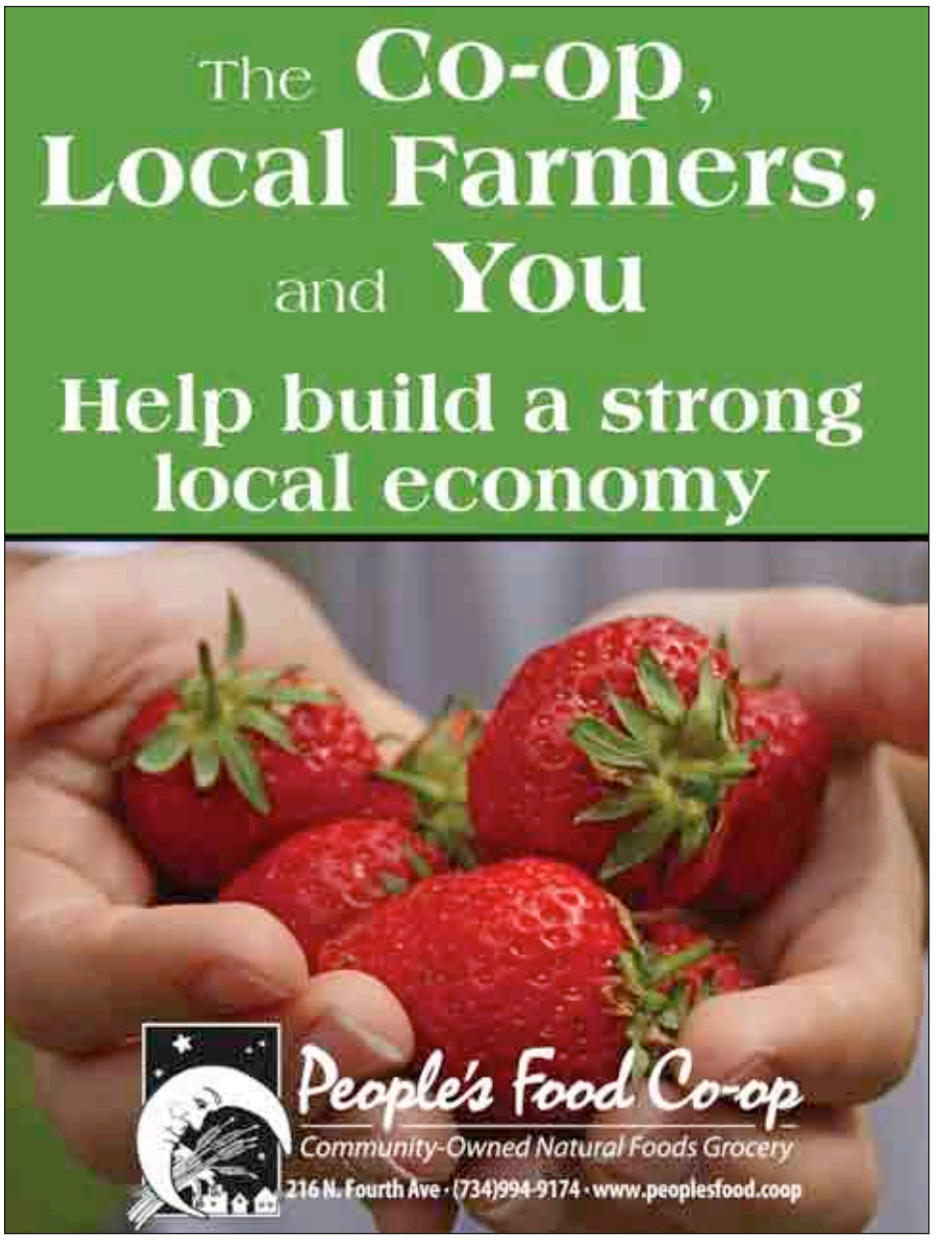
Rabbi Dobrusin has been active in many areas of the Rabbinate, including Jewish education and youth work, having served as a staff member at Camp Ramah in New England from 1977–1990 and as the rabbinic advisor to the Eastern Pennsylvania Region of United Synagogue Youth. He also has been active in interfaith work as one of the founding members of the Interfaith Round Table in Ann Arbor. He is a frequent speaker and teacher at congregations throughout the Ann Arbor area.

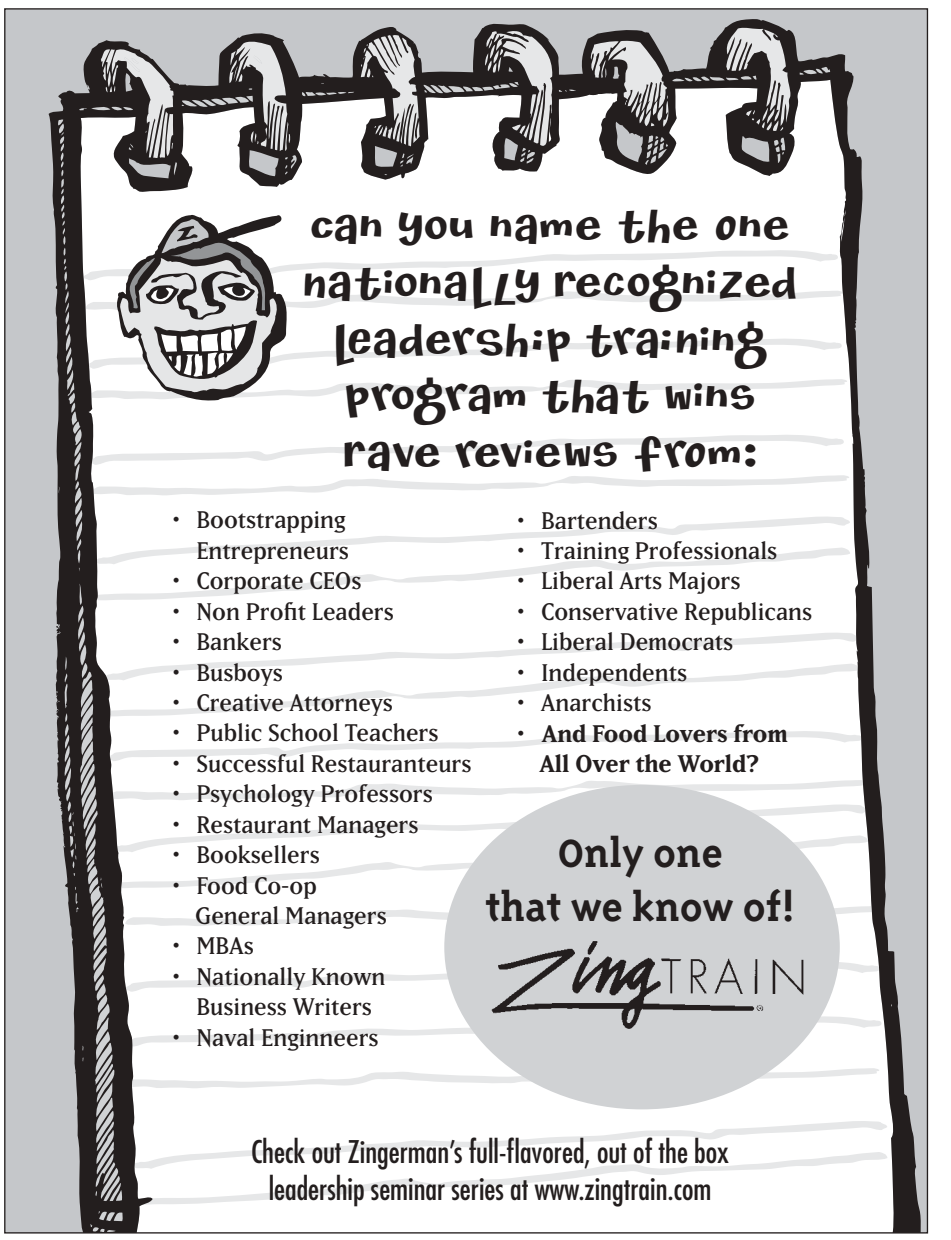
Among his hobbies and interests, Rabbi Dobrusin loves to travel, especially to Israel, and he and his family have recently become serious geocachers. He is an avid sports fan, most notably baseball, and is a passionate fan of the Boston Red Sox. He also enjoys writing and has published many newspaper and magazine articles on Jewish subjects, television, travel and baseball, and is currently working on several writing projects, including a book of sermons and personal stories.

Rabbi Dobrusin and his wife Ellen, have two children, Avi, 17 and Mickie, 15.

Arnold M. Eisen, chancellor of JTS, who conferred the degrees, noted that this occasion enabled JTS's faculty, administration, and board of trustees to express their collective esteem and thanks to these rabbis for more than 25 years of devoted religious leadership in the cause of Conservative Judaism and *Klal Yisrael*.

Beth Israel will also honor Rabbi Dobrusin at it's annual meeting scheduled for Sunday, June 20, at 7 p.m. ■





Ovshinsky's returns to the JCC with his support group for aspiring screenwriters

Sharlan Douglas, special to the WJN

She was a student filmmaker looking for ways to dramatize her documentary about her friend, a Holocaust survivor. He was no stranger to screenplay writing but found himself stuck as he attempted to rewrite his deeply personal script about his relationship with his father. She was a breast cancer survivor determined to structure her struggle with her disease in the form of a movie script.

"No comedies, this time around," says awarding-winning producer and screenwriting instructor, Harvey Ovshinsky about the work of his support group for aspiring screenwriters. "It's rare but it happens, sometimes. Maybe next time…."

"Next time" is in September when Ovshinsky returns to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor to lead a second round of his popular support group, "How to Complete Your First Movie Script in Six Months." Ovshinsky also offers groups for new screenwriters at the Chelsea Center for the Arts, the Community House of Birmingham and the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. "Maybe it's the state's film incentives, maybe it's the boomers and their children feeling the need to pass on their stories," says Ovshinsky. "Whatever it is, it's very satisfying to be able to work with so many brave hearts."

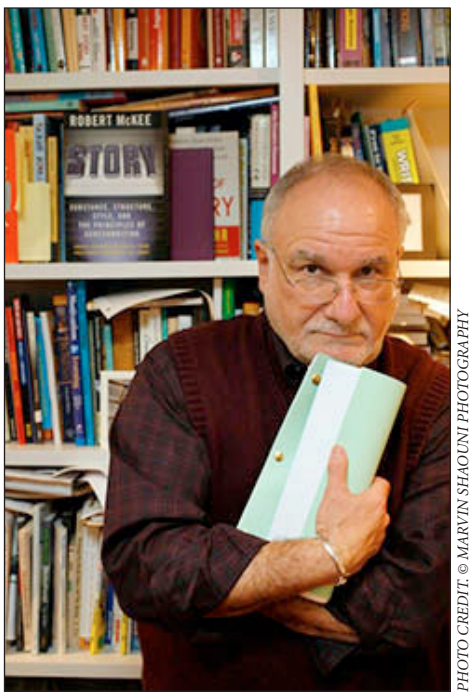


PHOTO CREDIT: © MARVIN SHAOUNI PHOTOGRAPHY

Harvey Ovshinsky

Why brave? "Because it's not easy," says Ovshinsky. "Curiosity and passion may get you to the first session, but it requires commitment and discipline to stay and finish the job. The challenge is how do we get out of bed, stop whining and just do it?" And how does a man once described by *The Detroit News* as "one of the country's finest storytellers" manage to inspire and instruct new screenwriters to "just do it"?

"We were never treated like amateurs," recalls JCC group member Robert Davidow. "Harvey treated us with respect. I felt more like a colleague than a student."

"Harvey asks questions in ways that make you think about the problem," says Judy Cohen, a retired realtor and former food editor for the *Washtenaw Jewish News*. "He makes suggestions in a constructive manner but never tells you what to do."

It's no accident. "I come from the Billy Wilder school," says Ovshinsky. "I may tell group members two plus two. But I try to let them do the math."

"Harvey wants you to succeed," says Maureen McDonald, a member of Ovshinsky's Birmingham group. " He won't let you drop the ball. But he could also be a real nudge. 'It's your story,' he would insist, but what's in it for the audience?"

"Not just the audience," adds Ovshinsky. "Group members learn how to trust their characters and let them guide them through the plot. The goal is for us is to become less the writer and more the designated transcribers of our characters' stories."

Ovshinsky has been helping others learn how to "transcribe" their stories ever since he wrote his first screenplay, a Movie-of-the-Week script, *PJ and the Dragon*, represented by Creative Artists Agency (CAA) and optioned by Longbow Productions (*A League of Their Own*). Ovshinsky also wrote the feature-length script, *The Keyman* and was a creative consultant for Longbow Productions' Movie-of-the-Week script, *Mr. Darrow and Dr. Sweet.*

Harvey Ovshinsky's writing skills are only surpassed by his abilities as a producer. He has been awarded broadcasting's highest honors, including a national Emmy, a Peabody, a duPont-Columbia University Award and the American Film Institute's Robert M. Bennett Award for Excellence. Ovshinsky has taught screenwriting and documentary filmmaking at Wayne State University and Madonna University and has been a guest lecturer at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Eastern Michigan University, and Oakland University.

"Harvey and his screenwriting group have really elevated our profile in the community," said Leslie Bash, JCC executive director. "Between the book fair, the Lenore Marwil Jewish Film Festival, art exhibits at the Amster Gallery, and our film discussion group with Russell Collins, we've become a real destination for anyone interested in learning about or expressing themselves in the arts."

Harvey Ovshinsky's screenwriting group, "How to Complete Your First Movie Script in Six Months," meets once a month at the JCC from 7–10 p.m. starting on Tuesday, September 7, 2010, and then, except for Tuesday, January 4, the first Monday of every month until February 7, 2011. Participants receive a sample script, a complete bibliography of screenwriting books, publications, and contests plus information about helpful computer formatting software. Also included is the latest version of Ovshinsky's popular, *Ten Most Important First Rules of Storytelling*.

The cost for all six-group sessions is $325. Enrollment is limited. To register for the JCC group, call 971-0990. For more details about any of Ovshinsky's workshops, call 996-8011. ■

Jewish Women's Circle: Genealogy and archiving family memories

Mae E. Sander, special to the WJN

The April meeting of the Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County presented the topic of researching family history and archiving family memories and photos. Women shared their stories and learned about online research and techniques for creating scrapbook pages with family photos or other material. The meeting, with its theme of family memories, was timed to occur shortly before Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom ha Shoah.

Mimi Weisberg, one of the organizers, was hostess for the event. She prepared an information packet to help people get started. One page introduced the online Jewish Women's Archive (http://jwa.org/), whose mission "is to uncover, chronicle, and transmit to a broad public the rich history of American Jewish women."

Weisberg demonstrated web-searching skills for finding genealogy information. She gave a hands-on tutorial to Monica Vaisman, who came to the meeting with the hope of further tracing one of her ancestors. Monica's grandfather had related a family tradition that Rabbi Yechezkel Landau of Prague (1713-1793), author of the book *Nod'a beYehudah*, was a distant ancestor. Working with Weisberg on a web search, Vaisman found that her mother and the rabbi's daughter had the same name—perhaps an indication of a link between the generations. Monica intends to continue researching the connection.

"Technology has made a big difference in finding family histories," explains Weisberg, who has been researching her own family for some time. Genealogy research links us to our families as well as to the Jewish people, she says. For example, some individuals see the Holocaust as a generalized memory of a horrifying event. "By searching for your ancestors and learning how the Holocaust affected them, you can put your own family into the memory," says Weisberg.

Yael Zoldan, one of the attendees, described her grandparents' history: "My grandparents all left Germany right as the war was starting, even before being married, and started a life in Israel. My grandmother said to her boyfriend at the time that she wanted to leave, and if he wanted to be with her, he needed to leave. Unfortunately most of the rest of their family died in the Holocaust."

Women attending the event also received a worksheet with questions to ask while collecting stories and memories from relatives or friends. This handout stressed the importance of archiving material properly. Craft skills are important, Weisberg says, but the main value comes from carefully telling the story of people appearing in photos, preserving memories and feelings.

Under the leadership of Linda Bender, several group members worked together to set up pages combining scrapbook supplies provided by the organizers with their own photos or other material. Bender also showed them some of her own archival pages.

The April meeting was the last Jewish Women's Circle event of the 2009-2010 year. During the summer, organizers Esther Goldstein and Mimi Weisberg will be planning next year's schedule of events. The goal of the meetings is companionship, conversation, and simple activities associated with Jewish themes. Participant Yael Zoldan says, "No matter what the program, it's good to spend an evening with this group of women."

Goldstein says, "We hope the scope of the group can expand next year, in terms of the personal relationships that we can develop. In particular, we would like members to feel a sense of mutual support when they need it – whether they are going through a difficult experience or a happy one."

All interested women are welcome to participate in planning. More information will become available via the group's Facebook page (title: Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County) or by email. All women, regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation, are welcome to join either through Facebook or by contacting Esther Goldstein: esther@jewmich.com or 995-3276 or Mimi Weisberg: mimi.weisberg@gmail.com. ■

Writing Your Wisdom Group begins in June

Robin Little, special to the WJN

Jewish Family Services and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor are offering a new writing group for midlife and older adults called "Writing Your Wisdom." The group will help participants find a means of expression for their lifelong wisdom and collect this wisdom in stories that they can share with loved ones.

A growing body of research suggests that writing about one's experiences can improve physical health, psychological well-being and general functioning. But, perhaps more importantly, capturing stories provides a history and wisdom for younger generations. This writing group will provide weekly prompts to draw out stories from the past and glean wisdom for the present.

The group will be facilitated by Janice Thorup, a gifted writer and interviewer with many years of experience listening to and recording stories of older adults. Thorup has a M.A. in English from the University of Utah and taught writing at Washington University in St. Louis. In addition to facilitating a writing group, she will also conduct individual interviews for an oral history project.

According to Thorup, "We make meaning in life through the stories we tell. The longer we live, the more stories we have, and the more readily we come into wisdom through their telling. Sometimes we reach wisdom only as we articulate our stories. My goal in running a writing group is to elicit stories. Everyone has them. Sometimes all it takes to get the stories flowing is a few questions and an interested audience. That is what the writing group provides."

The writing group begins on Tuesday, June 8, from 1:30–3 p.m., at the JCC. It will run for four weeks. To learn more about the group and/or to register by June 2, call Abbie Lawrence-Jacobson at 769-0209 or email abbie@jfsannarbor.org.

Melton Mini-School celebrates its first graduating class, announces new class

Julie Gales, special to the WJN

The first 18 graduates of Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Florence Melton Adult Mini-School will be honored at a Celebration of Learning dinner on June 16, the evening of their 60th and final lesson at the JCC. In a community of life-long learners and endless Jewish educational opportunities, these inaugural Melton students raised the bar by embarking on a two-year, world-class course developed by faculty at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Driven by their thirst for Jewish knowledge, these 18 students join this year's 3,000 Melton graduates in 62 sites around the world.

This graduating class brought together students from Beth Israel Congregation, Temple Beth Emeth, the Jewish Cultural Society, the Reconstructionist Havurah, and unaffiliated Jews. The diversity of the group, and the wide range of personal journeys evolving out of the same learning opportunity, reflects one of the Melton program's core principals—pluralist Jewish learning. This constructive, supportive learning environment empowered the students to not only examine Jewish practices, calendar, history, and values through texts, but to truly learn from each other by sharing the wide breadth of their Jewish beliefs and practices.

According to Melton graduate Lonnie Sussman, "I loved dedicating time to study traditions, ethics, history and more with old and new friends. The conversations and discussions are lively and thought-provoking. I find that I take what I have learned into the rest of the week."

The Melton graduation offers a perspective of renewal at a time of closure. Out of this milestone marking the end of the their two-year Melton course, Ann Arbor's inaugural Melton class have committed to continue to study together in a new Melton Graduate Course, Israeli Literature as a Window into Israeli Society. Melton graduate Rena Harold offered, "Being a Melton student is more than taking classes, it's being a part of an adult learning community."

Kol Hakavod to the Ann Arbor Melton Mini-School graduating class of 2010: Robin Axelrod, Harriet Bakalar, Judy Cohen, Susan Fisher, Rena Harold, Sid Lawrence, Joan Levitt, Linda Loewenstein, Eileen Nadler, Audrey Newell, Marylen Oberman, Greg Saltzman, Robert Sims, Lonnie Sussman, Roberta Tankanow, Ed Tobes, Elise Weisbach, and Ruth Winter. ■

(L to R) Matthew Kaplan (Ethics Faculty), Sid Lawrence, Roberta Tankanow, Harriet Bakalar, Greg Saltzman (behind), Ed Tobes, Audrey Newell (behind), Eileen Nadler, Elise Weisbach, Judy Cohen (behind), Susan Fisher, Marylen Oberman, Cobi Sacerdoti (Dramas Faculty). Missing graduates (Robin Axelrod, Rena Harold, Joan Levitt, Linda Loewenstein, Robert Sims, Lonnie Sussman, Ruth Winter).

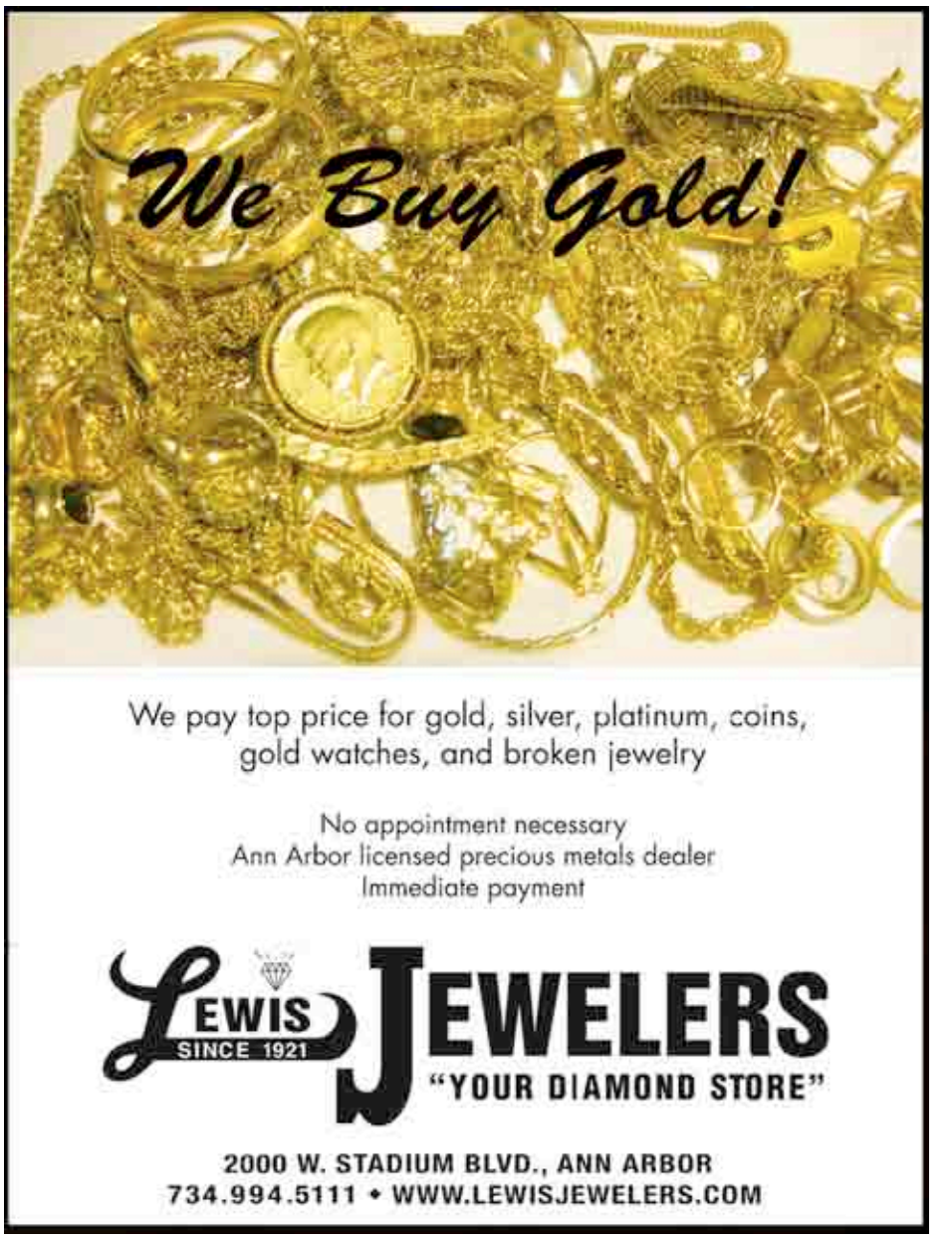
Melton classes offered Fall 2010

Mimi Weisberg, special to the WJN

"Just as it is a mitzvah to educate the child, so too is the parent commanded to teach himself."—Maimonides, Mishneh Torah

For the 2010-2011 year, Melton classes will be held on Thursday evenings at the JCC. Core Year 1 and Core Year 2 classes will be offered, as well as one graduate course and two scholars courses. The graduate course will be offered to Melton Year 1 and 2 graduates and is entitled, "Israeli Literature as a Window to Israeli Society." The two Scholars courses, open to the entire community, are Jews in America and Jewish Denominations. Brochures highlighting all of the pertinent information are available and classes are forming now. An Early Bird discount for Year 1 and Year 2 classes is also being offered. Students who sign up by July 15 will receive $25 off of tuition. Ann Arbor Melton alums also receive discounts.

Forming now is the Ann Arbor Melton Alumni Association. Membership in this important endeavor supports graduate courses, invests in faculty development and community learning and sustains the high quality adult education offered through the Melton Core Curriculum. For more information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or 971-0990.



JFS commemorates Victory Day

Robin Little, special to the WJN

On Sunday, May 9, Jewish Family Services celebrated the 65th anniversary of Victory Day, which commemorates the Allied victory over the Nazi tyranny in World War II, with a special dinner for the agency's Russian-speaking clients and their families. Seventy-five guests gathered at Café Marie for an evening filled with entertainment, camaraderie, and emotion.

Nina Dmitrieva, the coordinator of the JFS New American Community Club, organizes this commemoration every year for JFS's Russian-speaking clients who lived through the war. This year's event had special significance because the Russian government provided special medals for the veterans to honor their heroic service in the Russian Army. Larry Hiss, himself a survivor from Poland, was on hand to present the medals. The event also included the singing of traditional Russian songs and original poetry read by the grandchildren of the clients.

Cars Helping Veterans, a charity that accepts car donations in order to support programs for veterans, made a generous contribution to help underwrite the cost of the event.

The JFS New Americans Community Club (NACC) assists foreign-born older adults in accessing social and medical services and direct psychological support with the goal of promoting integration into the larger community. Services are offered in English and Russian and include translation, English as a Second Language classes, emergency financial assistance, resource advocacy, case management and cultural programs. ■

Four veterans of the Russian Army receive medals at a ceremony on May 9 Left to right: Elizaveta Lobkovskaya, Abram Monastyrsky, Raisa Levinskaya and Lyubov Solovyeva

For more information about the NACC, contact Nina Dmitrieva at 769-0209 or nina@jfsannarbor.org.

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Board and volunteers honored at June 13 meeting

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Brunch will be held Sunday, June 13, at 10 a.m., at the JCC. The morning promises to be a mix of business and pleasure as the JCC reflects on the successes of the previous 12 months.

After brunch, members will recognize retiring board directors, elect new board members, and vote on a new slate of officers. Committee chairs will also report on the activities over the past year. The President's Award for JCC Service, the Above and Beyond Award and the Krislov Award will all be presented at the meeting. An audio-visual presentation of the past year's events will be a highlight of the morning.

The JCC is grateful to all its volunteers, and the annual meeting offers an opportunity to honor the volunteers and thank them for their hard work. Without their dedication, the myriad of educational and cultural events at the JCC would not be possible.

The meeting is open to all community members. Special children's programming will also be available. RSVP by June 9. For more information, contact Rebekah Gamble at 971-0990 or rebekahgamble@jccfed.org.

Cultural Arts and Education summer offerings

Mimi Weisberg, special to the WJN

The role of the Jewish Cultural Arts and Education department at the Jewish Community Center is to offer exemplary programming in art, film, adult education, and literature to the Greater Ann Arbor Jewish community. The purpose is to provide programming to Ann Arbor that will compel, excite, and delight community members as well as strengthen Jewish identity and the bonds of the community.

The Cultural Arts and Education Department is buzzing with excitement about several summer events. The JCC's Amster Gallery will feature "Colors of Summer," a painting exhibit by artist, Mary Schuman. The exhibit will be shown from July 1–August 15 and will be free and open to the public.

The entire community is invited to attend the Jewish Adult Enrichment Class, "Judaism and the Roots of Christianity." This course is a four-part series that will take place Thursday evenings in June from 7–8 p.m., and will be taught by Dr. Michael Weiss. The cost is $60 for JCC members and $65 for non-members. Registration is due to the JCC by May 25.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or 971-0990.

"Shalom" programs welcome new community members

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Jewish newcomers to Ann Arbor—babies and adults alike—can take advantage of two programs to welcome them to the community: Shalom Ann Arbor and Shalom Baby.

For anyone new to Ann Arbor or thinking of moving to the area, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Shalom Ann Arbor is here welcome you to the Jewish community. The Shalom Ann Arbor Welcome Package is an essential information packet for newcomers or those considering relocating here. It includes a copy of the *Guide to Jewish Life*, the most recent edition of *Washtenaw Jewish News*, information on activities in the Jewish community and more. Volunteers are available to provide a personal welcome and introduction to Ann Arbor's Jewish community for those who have already moved here.

Shalom Baby is here to welcome parents, their newborns and newly-adopted children into the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Shalom Baby provides families with a "Welcome to Our World" gift bag full of fun and helpful gifts, information on parenting, Jewish resources for parents and families and support from caring volunteers.

To receive information on the JCC's new Shalom programs, contact Halye Aisner at 971-0990 or halyeaisner@jccfed.org. These programs are a wonderful way for newcomers to meet new people, make new friends and learn about the Jewish Community and the resources available.

JCC Apples & Honey program welcomes newcomers

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Newcomers to the Ann Arbor area and new members of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor are invited to visit the Newcomers' Booth, featuring the Shalom Ann Arbor program, at Apples & Honey on August 29, from noon-3 p.m. This free community celebration of the Jewish fall holidays will take place at the JCC.

The Newcomers' Booth will offer information about Ann Arbor and the Ann Arbor Jewish community, gifts, coupons and a chance to meet others who have recently moved to the area. Members of the JCC and the Jewish Federation boards, as well as members from all other Jewish organizations, will be welcoming newcomers.

For more information about Apples and Honey and the Newcomer's Booth, call 971-0990 or email to halyeaisner@jccfed.org.

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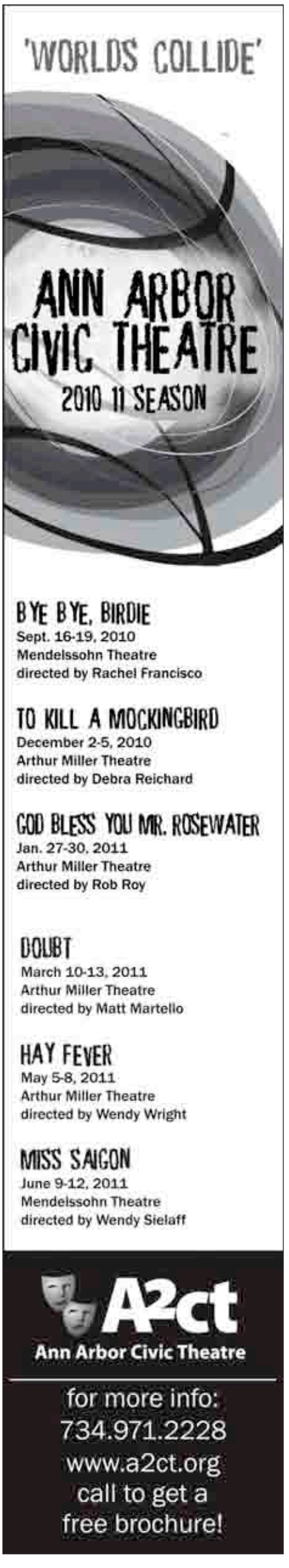


June/July/August SPICE* of Life

***Social, Physical, Intellectual, Cultural, and Educational Programs for Adults**

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

Tuesdays

11 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10.
Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person.
1 p.m.: Games and Activities. Join in for a variety of games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects, and other card games.
1 p.m.: Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No sports or computer experience necessary.
1:30 p.m.: Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). Open to the public; University of Michigan faculty, staff and students, all ages and levels welcome. Beanster's Café, ground floor, Michigan League. Free. For more information, call 936-2367.

Wednesdays

10 a.m.–noon. The Bible in Its Time, with Dr. Liz Fried. Continues through June 16. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class.

Thursdays

10 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10.
11 a.m.: Current Events with Heather Dombey. A discussion of this week's news. Bring items of interest for group discussion.
Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person.
1 p.m.: Thursday Special Events and Presentations (see below for details).
2:15 p.m.: Literary Group facilitated by Sidney Warschausky, Call Merrill Poliner, 971-0990, for more information and the current book.

Fridays

1:30 p.m.: Yiddish Reading Group at the Jewish Community Center. Call Ray Juni for additional information at 761-2765.

Tuesday special events and presentations

June 8 through June 29

1:30 p.m.–3 p.m.: Writing Your Wisdom is a four session writing group that will provide weekly prompts to draw out stories from your past and glean wisdom from your present. Registration required. Call Merrill at 971-0990.

June 8 and June 22
July 13 and 27
August 10 and August 24

1–2 p.m.: Welcome to the new Wii! Join SPICE for Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. Call Merrill at 971-0990 for more information.

Thursday special events and presentations

June 3

12:30 p.m.: Birthday celebration for all with June birthdays. Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake. 1 p.m. A performance by the U-M group "Ring of Stee,l" the largest theatrical combat, stunt and special effects troupe in the country and the fight/stunt arrangers for the Michigan Opera Theatre.

June 10

12:30 p.m.: A registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address any questions. Free. (This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.)
1 p.m.: Local musicians perform classical music.

June 17

12:30 p.m.: Meet the Social Worker. Allison Pollock, JFS geriatric social worker, will be available for discussion, questions and assistance.
1 p.m.: Rabbi Kim Blumenthal of Beth Israel Congregation joins SPICE for a discussion and presentation.

June 24

1 p.m.: Jeffrey Bernstein, professor of history at Eastern Michigan University will present on "Assessing Obama."

July 13 and 27

1–2 p.m.: Welcome to the new Wii! Join SPICE for Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. Call Merrill at 971-0990 for more information.

July 1

12:30 p.m.: Birthday celebration for all with July birthdays! Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake. 1 p.m. Rich Kinsey, a retired Ann Arbor Police detective sergeant, brings us stories about his police career.

July 8

12:30 p.m.: A registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address any questions. Free. (This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.)
1 p.m.: Representatives from Paws with a Cause will discuss their various programs and demonstrate some of the assistance their animals can provide.

July 15

12:30 p.m.: Allison Pollock, JFS geriatric social worker, will be available for questions, discussion and assistance. 1:00 p.m. Marie Pierce, from Ann Arbor Hospice, will discuss the Hospice Concept.

July 22

Noon: Summer Picnic lunch.
1 p.m.: Reminisce about summer and participate in summertime activities.

July 29

1 p.m.: Ben Pollock, MSU professor of religion, will present on "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?: Jewish Responses."

August 5

12:30 p.m.: Birthday celebration for all with August birthdays! Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake.
1 p.m.: Annie Rose, cantor of Temple Beth Emeth, will discuss Jewish spirituality.

August 12

12:30 p.m:. A registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address any questions. Free. (This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.)
1 p.m.: Beat the summer heat with a presentation about an Alaskan cruise.

August 19

12:30 p.m.: Allison Pollock, JFS geriatric social worker, will be available for questions, discussion and assistance.
1 p.m.: Staff from Packard Health will present on prevention of and managing diabetes.

August 26

1 p.m.: Ann Arbor Transportation Authority will be on hand to explain the Senior transportation options available.

Fishman-DiPietro Senior Program Endowment Fund presents Wine, Women & Song

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will host Wine, Women & Song, the second of the senior programming events underwritten by the Fishman-DiPietro Senior Program Endowment Fund. The Fund was set up in 2006 by Alice Fishman and Michael DiPietro in memory of their mothers, Sybil Fishman and Pauline DiPietro, and of Fishman's father, Steve Fishman, a longtime participant of the JCC's SPICE Older Adults Program.

On Sunday, June 6, local women celebrities and stars, led by Wendy Bloom, will perform classical, jazz and cabaret standards accompanied by Jerry DePuit at the keyboard. Wendy Bloom's diverse artistic background includes opera, oratorio, early music, chamber music, choral music, recitals, cabaret and musical theatre. Her solo appearances have included concerts with symphonies in Ann Arbor, Flint, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Baltimore and Toledo. She has performed as alto soloist in Prokofiev's Alexander Nevsky, Bach's B Minor Mass and St. Matthew Passion, Handel's Messiah, Mozart's Requiem and Mahler's Third Symphony.

The concert will begin at 4 p.m. at the JCC. Refreshments and beverages will be available at 3:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 at the door and the JCC reception desk the day of the concert. Contact Merrill Poliner, JCC SPICE Older Adults Coordinator, at 971-0990 or merrill@jfsannarbor.org for more information, to order tickets or to arrange transportation through Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County's transportation services.

Nahalal dedicates park to Ann Arbor

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

Eli Avny, an Israeli-born long-term resident of the Ann Arbor area, returned to Israel for a visit a few months ago. At the urging of the Federation, Avny decided to visit Moshav Nahalal in the central Galilee and learn about the Israeli community that he had heard so much about in Ann Arbor. He brought his 94-year-old father and his father's partner along. Avny did not realize what an impact the visit would have on him.

"I was so impressed by the people I met at Nahalal and the warm welcome that we received, especially from Yair Hammer, who hosted us and gave us a tour of the moshav," explains Avny. "It was as if we were old friends and we only just met."

Hammer showed Avny an area that is being developed into a new park to symbolize the special connections that are forming between Nahalal and Ann Arbor. Avny was so moved by his treatment at Nahalal and by the gesture represented by the creation of the park that when he returned to Ann Arbor he sought a special way to express his appreciation. That turned out to be a very generous contribution via the Federation to help with the costs of developing the park. Avny hopes that as more members of the Ann Arbor Jewish community visit Nahalal, enjoy its hospitality and experience Partnership 2000, it will become commonplace to say thank you by making a small contribution in support of this effort.

The sister-community relationship that has been formed between the Jewish community of Ann Arbor and Moshav Nahalal, as part of the larger Michigan-Central Galilee Partnership 2000 project, is becoming a larger part of Ann Arbor's Jewish landscape each year. Since 2008, when the relationship with Nahalal began to bloom in earnest, well over 100 members of the community have visited and been hosted in Nahalal. Dozens of residents from Nahalal have visited and participated in activities in Ann Arbor.

Important traditions have been put in place and more are being formed all the time. One of the highlights of the annual "Celebrate Israel" Independence Day celebration is the presence of a delegation from Nahalal and the impressive Nahalal exhibit that has become integral to the festival. Teen athletes from Nahalal participate in the Maccabi games with the Ann Arbor delegation. A new student exchange program was instituted for the first time this year and an ever-growing number of personal friendships between members of the two communities are flourishing. In November 2010, an Ann Arbor community bicycle trip in Israel, co-sponsored by the Federation and Temple Beth Emeth, will begin with an exploration of the Galilee, using Nahalal as home base. Additional projects are in the planning stages.

Nothing expresses how meaningful this relationship is becoming better than the dedication of a new park to recognize the ties that are being built between the two communities. The residents from Nahalal like to call it "The Ann Arbor Arbor" and every visitor from the community to Nahalal is invited to take a personal role in cultivating this relationship by planting a new tree in the Arbor.

Arik Mekler, a third-generation member of Nahalal who conceived the park, spoke about what the project means to him at this year's Celebrate Israel event. "The Nahalal/Ann Arbor Park Project, that I am in charge of for the Nahalal community, symbolizes how deeply we feel about the connection between our two communities. The place that the Arbor is planned is in the fields of Nahalal, in the heart of the Jezreel Valley. Our goal is to develop an area where visitors from Ann Arbor can plant a tree, and build a special meeting place for our two communities. This will be a meeting place for walkers, cyclists and horseback riders from all over the Jezreel valley to stop, to rest, or to meet with friends. I am certain this project will be a great success and will be a lasting symbol of the strong relationship between us."

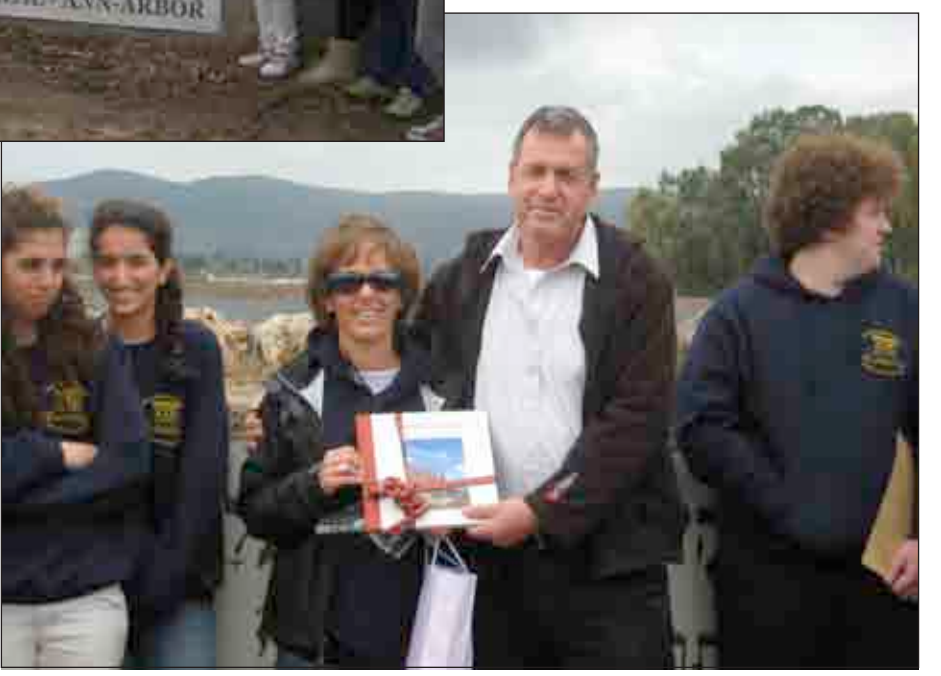
A landscape design of the park was displayed at Celebrate Israel and is now on display at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Built around and incorporating an ancient Tel called Givat HaShualim, the park will employ a "green design," using recycled materials for sitting areas and picnic tables, opening an underground stream into a new pond and covering the area with new trees and wildflowers. On top of the Tel will be benches and a large metal map identifying the sites to be seen all around.

"It is extraordinary how deep the connection between Nahalal and Ann Arbor has become in such a short time," says Federation Director David Shtulman. "The people of Nahalal are doing this at their own expense as a gesture of love. When we take the time to visit, and when we demonstrate our own support for this effort, then we are returning the gesture and saying it means just as much to us."

Anyone who would like to visit Nahalal, become involved in Partnership 2000 or make a donation to the park, can do so by contacting Eileen Freed at 677-0100. ■

Teens from the Student Exchange visit and plant the first tree in the new park

Eileen Freed presents a check from Eli Avny to Nahalal *Mazkir* (General Secretary), Yadi Betzer



Eileen Freed thanks Jezreel Valley Mayor and Nahalal resident Eyal Betzer for his support of the project.

An unforgettable day in Nahalal

Eli Avny, special to the WJN

While we were approaching the cowshed in Nahalal, I had in mind a picture of Tevia the milkman, and a cow kicking buckets of milk. Little did I know that I was about to witness a high-tech robotized operation that can rival the technology in a modern automotive assembly plant in my place of employment.

Our host, Yair Hammer, had a challenging task: to please a 94 year-old man (my father), his partner Maya (who speaks only Russian), and me, whose chronic child-like curiosity can prompt non-stop questions. Yair fascinated me with his tact, and turned that day into an unforgettable experience. He showed us the future location of the Ann Arbor Park with much enthusiasm, and shared the vision relating to the "park of friendship" between Nahalal and Ann Arbor.

My father and Maya had a glow on their face the whole day. Whatever it was—the friendship, the care, the time given, or the open heart—it was meaningful to all of us. My father, a witness to some of the worst horrors of the Holocaust, still talks about our joyous visit to Nahalal.

When I returned to Ann Arbor, I called David Shtulman [Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor Executive Director] and Eileen Freed [Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor Director of Israel/Overseas and Community Relations], to let them know that I felt the need to reciprocate. So the idea to initiate some local funding for the Ann Arbor Park, and give back to our friends in Nahalal, was born. I am very grateful that the Jewish Federation endorsed the idea of supporting this great cause, and will continue this wonderful path of friendship between two communities, so far from and yet so close to each other. I hope others who feel a similar connection will be a part of pioneering this exciting new opportunity in Nahalal, where I found a second home in Israel.

No lazy summer days for Hillel at EMU

Brent Morris, special to the WJN

After a dynamic year with over 75 programs, Hillel at EMU will spend the summer months hard at work continuing student engagement and initiatives that began during the school year.

The newly founded Student Advisory Board (SAB), created by the students during the spring semester, will empower student ownership over programming and events. The SAB is working hard this summer to plan next year's events while still maintaining a sense of summer fun with monthly BBQ brainstorming sessions.

Another exciting development in Jewish campus life initiated by EMU's Jewish students is the newly restarted Alpha Epsilon Pi colony; Epsilon Mu was officially initiated in April. These Jewish young men are strengthening their bonds of brotherhood and developing their AEPi chapter to be ready for their first pledge program during the fall rush.

After the Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trip to Los Angeles in March, ASB participants returned ready to engage in more *tzedek* (social action) projects, including a new Hillel garden. During the summer, students will work on the Hillel at EMU garden tending and nurturing it so a portion of the produce can be donated to SOS Community Services.

Hillel EMU students at the Alternative Spring Break in Los Angeles

Even though there are no Hillel at EMU Shabbat dinners over the summer, Hillel at EMU still encourages students to create their own Shabbat experience. Through "Do It Yourself Shabbat" kits, Hillel at EMU helps groups of students create a meaningful Shabbat evening in their own homes. Some items provided in the kit include candles, grape juice and challah.

There is never a dull moment at Hillel at EMU; even during the so-called slow months of summer EMU's Jewish students are served. With a small staff of only two professionals, Hillel at EMU must continue throughout the summer to raise funds and plan for the intense weeks at the opening of the fall semester. Through strategic partnerships with EMU faculty and administration, Hillel at EMU continues its role not only as one of the most active student groups on campus, but as an integral partner in the academic and intellectual life at Eastern. Hillel at EMU is looking forward to more events open to the entire community next fall. It might be "summer break," but there is no break for Hillel at EMU, the Jewish connection at Easter Michigan University. ■

Brent Morris is Jewish Student Life Coordinator at Hillel at EMU.

Op-Ed: Fighting the new divestment effort on campus

By Wayne L. Firestone

WASHINGTON (JTA)—The efforts of anti-Israel activists to pass divestment resolutions at the University of California, San Diego and University of California, Berkeley are troubling developments, but not for the reasons their proponents are proclaiming. These resolutions—thwarted by pro-Israel students on campus in both cases—hold little practical impact and likely would be overturned on technical grounds if they should ever win passage. Nevertheless, the pro-Israel community must take these measures seriously for their potential to demonize Israel and foster anti-Israel sentiment on campus.

This isn't the first time in recent history that the openness of the campus has drawn the attention of divestment forces. In the fall of 2001, a self-proclaimed divestment movement announced plans to stage a conference at UC Berkeley in response to the outbreak of the second intifada a year earlier. Although the conference was postponed to the spring in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the efforts launched a six-year effort to turn the presumed local conference into a national phenomenon by staging it in subsequent years at the University of Michigan, Rutgers, Ohio State, Duke and Georgetown. Considerable media attention and resources in Jewish and campus press were devoted to these efforts.

The pro-Israel community learned several lessons from this anti-Israel campaign—first and foremost that it was neither about divestment nor was it a movement.

The so-called divestment movement was not about economic sanctions but was a cunning attempt by marginal groups on campus to drum up publicity by comparing today's Israel with yesterday's apartheid South Africa. Divestment has been a thinly veiled effort to delegitimize and demonize Israel. Then as now, these groups have no reasonable chance of affecting university investment policy.

Yesterday's divestment movement was destined to fail because it was not truly an organic, authentic movement of local students, faculty or trustees. Divestment conferences of the past featured off-campus speakers and participants from anarchist, far left and anti-Israel groups who flew in for the occasion. Local students, faculty and staff looked on with amazement and chagrin as national radical hotheads hijacked their campuses for a weekend and moved on. Other guerrilla tactics of the era, like mock "checkpoints," were met with similar shame, bemusement and embarrassment. At the University of Virginia, the student newspaper cried shame and editorialized that such conduct had no place in the birthplace of Jeffersonian democracy.

Today's divestment movement is different. The divestment movement is no longer seeking to hijack the campus; it wants to hijack the student government. Organizers are using the tools of democracy to lobby their student government representatives to sponsor and support anti-Israel measures. What may seem like a simple, pro-forma, sense-of-the-senate resolution to an unsuspecting college legislator has profound symbolic significance for friends of Israel on campus.

The only way to combat these efforts is to strengthen the efforts of the tens of thousands of pro-Israel students on campus who have participated in a Taglit-Birthright Israel trip or another similar program. At Berkeley and San Diego, anti-divestment activity was mobilized immediately with the collaboration of a Hillel Jewish Agency for Israel fellow, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Israel Consulate and myriad pro-Israel organizations in the Israel on Campus Coalition. The day before the Berkeley vote, the Israel fellow on campus had worked with other campus groups to sponsor a high-level seminar on Israeli democracy featuring renowned Israeli jurist Ruth Gavison.

Moving forward, three specific strategies should help guide our response to the new divestment movement:

- Student empowerment: This is a battle that needs to be fought and won locally. Off-campus groups should resist the temptation for uncoordinated fly-ins that undermine local efforts or send signals to the students that they cannot or should not take ownership of this issue.
- Coalition building: Israel delegitimization is not a battle the Jewish students should fight alone. It has been heartening at several AIPAC policy conferences to see hundreds of non-Jewish student government presidents who are publicly associated with the pro-Israel movement.
- Israel's brand: Israel's friends on campus cannot abandon efforts to promote Israel's remarkable success as a high-tech democracy, a "start-up nation." We must continue to represent the true Israel as a country that shares America's Western values and contributes to the world in a variety of fields, not the least of which are industry, medicine and the arts.

This campaign presents Hillel and the pro-Israel community with an opportunity to continue to educate the campus about the true face of Israel. We cannot sit by idly as anti-Israel activists undermine Israel's position among the future leaders of this nation. We cannot be silent as a central tenet of Jewish identity is defamed.

With only a few weeks left in this school year, it is unlikely that a specific divestment effort will succeed. However, it is important for the community to recognize the seriousness of the warning signs from this year, to support student empowerment and training, and to be prepared to fight next year's as opposed to last year's battle.

Wayne L. Firestone is the president and CEO of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life.

Frankel Institute announces 2010–2011 Fellows

Kim Reick Kunoff, special to the WJN

In 2005, The Samuel and Jean Frankel Heritage Foundation provided a $20 million endowment to establish the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. Each year the Institute invites a dozen scholars together to Ann Arbor to pursue research projects on a general theme. They meet regularly with each other to discuss their work, interact with faculty and students, and enrich the intellectual life of the community.

The theme year for 2010–2011 is "Jewish languages." Scholars from history, literature, and religious studies departments in Israel and North America will join head fellows Anita Norich and Joshua Miller from the University of Michigan to consider how the questions and implications of Jewish dialects motivate approaches to narrative and literary form, biblical and Talmudic studies, literary modernism, multilingualism and translation, and more.

The 2010–2011 Frankel Institute scholars are:

- **David Aaron,** Hebrew Union College—Winter 2011. Language, Holiness, and Identity: The Concept *of l'shon haqodesh* [the Holy Tongue] from the Late Biblical Era through the Closing of Talmudic Era Literatures.
- **Karen Auerbach,** University of Southampton (UK)—Fall 2010–Winter 2011. Jewish Publishers of Polish Literature: Integration, Language Choice, and Cultural Identifications (1850–1939).
- **Monique Balbuena,** University of Oregon—Fall 2010–Winter 2011. The New Faces of Ladino in Latin America Today: Language Revival and National Identity.
- **David Bunis,** Hebrew University—Fall 2010. Expressions of Emotion in Jewish Languages.

Andrew "Marc" Caplan, Johns Hopkins University—Winter 2011. The Weight of an Epoch: Yiddish Literature and German Culture in the Interwar Era.

- **Elliot Ginsburg,** University of Michigan—Fall 2010. *Ve-yesh sod la-davar* (The Word's the Thing): A Thick Description of Jewish Mystical Prayer Practices.
- **Benjamin Hary,** Emory University—Winter 2011. The History of Judeo-Arabic.
- **Richard Kalmin,** Jewish Theological Seminary—Winter 201. Aramaic Targumim in Jewish and Christian Mesopotamia.
- **Joshua Miller,** University of Michigan—Fall 2010–Winter 2011.
- **Anita Norich,** University of Michigan—Fall 2010–Winter 2011. Yiddish-English Translation.
- **Avraham Novershtern,** Hebrew University—Winter 2011. The Image of Yiddish in the American Yiddish Discourse.
- **Na'ama Rokem,** University of Chicago—Fall 2010–Winter 2011. The Divided Horizon: German-Hebrew Bilingualism in the 20th Century.
- **Dan Shapira,** Bar Ilan University—Fall 2010. Turkic-Karaite Biblical Translations.
- **Ruth Tsoffar,** University of Michigan—Fall 2010–Winter 2011. Cannibal Ideology: Sexuality, Ethnicity, and Colonialism in Hebrew Cultures.
- **Yaron Tsur,** Tel Aviv University—Fall 2010–Winter 2011. Language, Colonialism, and Nationalism: The Case of North African Jewry.
- **Kalman Weiser,** York University—Fall 2010. From Yidishe *visnshaft* to Yiddish Studies: Max Weinreich in America.
- **Hana Wirth-Nesher,** Tel Aviv University—Fall 2010. Multilingual Jewish Writing: Hebrew-English Cross Scripts.

For more information, visit http://www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic/

Beth Israel summer activities

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Friday night Shabbat events

On Friday, July 2, in honor of the 4th of July weekend, Beth Israel Congregation will offer "Barbecue and Barchu"—a special grilled hamburger and hot dog dinner at 6 p.m. followed by an outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat service at 7 p.m. There is a fee, and the deadline for reservations is June 30, at 9 a.m. Call the Beth Israel office for reservations, .

Due to the popularity of last year's barbecue meal, this summer a second one has been added on Friday, July 30, at 6 p.m. – Barbecue and Barchu Two, followed by an Outdoor Singing Kabbalat Shabbat service at 7 p.m. There is a charge for the dinner.

The annual Pet Shabbat for Humans and Their Loyal Pets will take place on Friday, August 6, at 6 p.m. Pet owners are asked to bring their pets to an outdoor Shabbat celebration for the whole family in the Beth Israel courtyard. There will be Shabbat songs and blessings for the pets and their owners. The event will conclude with a special oneg for pets and humans.

On Friday, August 13, at 6 p.m., the annual Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service, honoring the memory of Joey Newhouse, will be held in the Sanctuary. This service includes new and old melodies, and is led by Joey's mother Ruth, and others. This event includes hors d'ouevres before the Kabbalat Shabbat Service and a Dessert Oneg following. This event is underwritten by the Joseph Newhouse Beth Israel Musical Enhancement Fund.

On Friday, August 20, at 5:30 p.m., "Take the Time to Experience the… Magic of Shabbat" will feature a magic show; participants are asked to bring their own picnic dinner. This service is aimed at families with young children.

On Friday, August 27, at 6 p.m., the annual Shabbat in the Park will take place at the County Farm Park. Participants can enjoy a Kabbalat Shabbat service outdoors, followed by a dairy potluck Shabbat dinner. Produce from the Beth Israel Garden will be served.

Summer Tot Shabbat

Throughout the summer, tots and their parents or special friends are invited to share a Shabbat celebration just for them. These interactive Tot Shabbat services are filled with songs, stories, and Jewish learning. During the summer, Tot Shabbat is held twice a month, at 11:15 a.m. on the second Saturday and fourth Saturday of the month: June 12 and 26; July 10 and 24; and August 14 and 28. Tot Shabbat service is led by Peretz Hirshbein or Jessica Kander.

Tisha B'av

Services for the holiday on the 9th of Av, which marks the destruction of the first and second Temples and other tragedies that have occurred in Jewish history, will take place on Monday, July 19, at 9 p.m., and on Tuesday, July 20, at 8 a.m. Both services will include the chanting of Megillat Eicha, the Book of Lamentations. A mincha service at 2:30 p.m. on July 20 will include the special Torah readings and haftarah for the holiday.

The Beth Israel garden

For the fourth year, Beth Israel has a garden at County Farm Park at Platt Road and Washtenaw Avenue. The garden, part of Project Grow, supplies flowers and vegetables for summer onegs, and local food banks. Approximately half of the produce is donated to Food Gatherers. Everyone is invited to visit the garden or volunteer to work. Prior experience is not required. Contact Sam Zwetchkenbaum at szwetch@umich.edu or 717-6046 for more information.

Annual high school dinner

High School students are invited to a dairy dinner with ice cream on Tuesday, August 31, at 6 p.m., at the home of Rabbi Kim Blumenthal to renew acquaintances and meet with Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, Rabbi Kim Blumenthal, Cindy Saper, and Jake Kander, and discuss the upcoming year of activities at Beth Israel. Email programs@bethisrael-aa.org for further details.

Summer services

Daily and Shabbat services continue all summer long: on Saturdays at 9:30 p.m., Sunday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m., and on Fridays evenings at 6 p.m. On evenings which also have a dinner or special program, the Friday service time may be different. Check out the Beth Israel website www.bethisrael-aa.org for details.

Beth Israel Fun Fair

On Sunday, August 22, 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Beth Israel will host a Fun Fair for adults and children with activities such as a Bounce House, Caricature Artist, Lawn Games, Wii Rockband Tourney, Israeli Dancing, Soccer, Arts and Crafts and Face-painting, Mahjongg, Bingo, Shofar Blowing Instruction, kosher hot dog lunch , sno cones and more. There is a charge for the hot dog lunch, but all other activities and the snow cones are free.

Women's' study groups

Rabbi Blumenthal currently facilitates two study groups for women. For women in their 20s there is "Study at Starbucks," and for women in the 30s and 40s there is a separate study group which meets at other locations. Both groups meet monthly to look at Torah and Jewish tradition from a modern perspective, focusing on issues of interest to the group. For more information, contact Rabbi Blumenthal at kblumenthal@bethisrael-aa.org or 665-9897.

Rosh Hodesh program for women

The Women's League of Beth Israel has planned a Rosh Hodesh program for all women post-bat mitzvah age to celebrate the new moon that begins on the Sabbath day of Saturday, June 12, from 4–5:30 p.m., for the Jewish month of Tammuz. There will be a light dinner, a short program including the opportunity to learn why Rosh Hodesh is considered a minor Jewish women's holiday and some fun activities. Preregistration is helpful but not required.

Shabbat "Lunch and Learn"

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin will facilitate a learning and text study session from the new Conservative High Holiday prayer book (*machzor)* called *Lev Shalem,* which will be used for the first time this September.

Free tickets for High Holidays and special dues for those 35 and under

Individuals and families who have moved to Washtenaw County since last Yom Kippur, may request free High Holiday tickets as Beth Israel's way of welcoming them into the local Jewish community. Graduate students and first- and second-year residents with I.D.s may also request free individual tickets. Request forms must be submitted before the holidays, as no tickets can be provided immediately prior to any service.

People who are age 35 or younger may become members at a special rate of $300 for the whole family for their first year of membership (plus USCJ dues assessment of $34.75).

Tickets for the High Holidays are provided free of charge to all members of Beth Israel. Nonmembers may purchase tickets for High Holiday Services, although no tickets are required for the Rosh Hashanah Family Celebration for Young Children and the K–5 Family Program on the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah. Those interested in further information are asked to call the synagogue office at 665-9897.

Open enrollment for BIRS

Parents may register their children for Beth Israel Religious School throughout the summer. Beth Israel offers educational programs for children in kindergarten through eighth grade, and paid leadership and Jewish educational enrichment for ninth–twelfth graders. In the elementary grades, students learn the skills to enable them to live a traditional Jewish lifestyle in the contemporary world. Throughout their studies, they are engaged in learning Jewish thought and history, and in examining the conceptual basis of Jewish beliefs. In Hebrew education, the students develop Hebrew reading skills and *siddur* literacy. During the middle school years, the continuing students use the language skills they have learned and begin a formal study of conversational Hebrew. Separate Hebrew immersion and advanced text study classes are offered to Hebrew Day School graduates or other qualified students. (The immersion classes are offered to both members and non-members).

Annual congregation meeting

Beth Israel's Annual Congregation Meeting with dessert reception will take place on Sunday, June 20, at 7 p.m. It will feature Tom Wexelberg Clouser, the Jewish Theological Seminary director, Midwest Regional office, who will give the key note address, marking the honorary doctorate given to Rabbi Dobrusin by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. This event will include the elections of new members and officers of the Beth Israel board for the 2010–2011 fiscal year, and their installation, and the presentation of honorable Menschen Awards to volunteers who have made a difference over the past year. The agenda for the meeting includes the approval of the budget for the 2010–2011 fiscal year.

All Beth Israel events open to non-members

All Beth Israel events are open to the general community, and many are offered at no cost. Call 665-9897 for additional information about the summer events. Additional summer events will be posted on Beth Israel's website –www.bethisrael-aa.org.

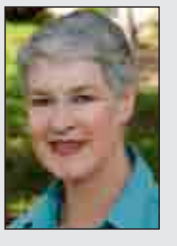
Story of Beit Loya

On Sunday, June 6, at 7:45 p.m., Israeli archaeologist, Oren Gutfeld, Ph.D, who recently spent three weeks in Israel excavating Beit Loya, will present "From Jerusalem to Guatemala—The Amazing Story of the Site of Beit Loya (Lehi)." This free lecture is part of the Current Topics in Jewish Studies series, sponsored by Beth Israel and underwritten by the Seligson Adult Education Fund.

Archaeological excavations undertaken by Gutfeld since 2005 at Beit Loya (Lehi), located in the central Judean Plains (Shephelah), have unearthed remains that may point to the existence of a Jewish settlement at the site during the Second Temple period. The significance of the finds stems in part from the fact that the site is located in Idumea, a pagan territory concerning which very little is known about its Jewish inhabitants. Who is Lehi? Why were four illustrations of boats found at the site: two graffiti and two pictures on a mosaic floor? And what does Guatemala have to do with it?

Dr. Gutfeld received his Ph.D. in classical archaeology from the Department of Archaeology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was a Fellow at the Frankel Center of Jewish Studies from 2007–2008. He presently serves as the director of the Hebrew University's excavations at Beit Loya (Lehi) and co-director of the university's excavations in the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. He is also a member of the editing team completing the final report of the late Nahman Avigad's Jewish Quarter Excavations.

Jewish identity and art



On Sunday, July 11, at 7:45 p.m., Dr. Naomi Feuchtwanger-Sarig will present a multimedia presentation on "Jewish Identity and the Beginnings of Modern Jewish Art: Responses to the Emancipation."

The Age of Enlightenment marked a change in the co-existence of the Jewish minority and its host society. The Jewish quest for equal rights, however, did not come to fruition until the mid-20th century, when they were granted emancipation gradually all over Europe. Its enormous impact on questions of Jewish identity resonates, among other cultural forms, in the art produced by Jewish artists. This is the age in which the first Jewish artists, such as Oppenheim, Kaufman, Gottlieb, and Israels flourished. Constantly probing their own identities through modernistic eyes, these artists laid the foundation for a new form of expression, reshaping and redefining Jewish art.

With the birth of Zionism, issues of Jewish identity, religion, and nationality came prominently to the fore. While artists such as Boris Schatz sought to create, or revitalize Jewish art, his own art remained embedded in the culture of the shtetl on the one hand, and at the same time emphatically influenced by Palestine (Eretz Israel), its people and its landscapes.

Modern Jewish art has become the art of Jewish artists. Examining their old traditions and exploring new turf, their religiosity and their nationalism, their subject-matter ranges from biblical and Jewish themes, newly interpreted in dialogue with international art, to the mundane and the abstract. "Jewish art" is in the process of defining itself anew.

Feuchtwanger-Sarig studied art history at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, specializing in Jewish art and visual culture, with emphasis on the cultural history of the Jews in the Germanic lands and the illustrated Hebrew book. Since 2007, she has served as the project coordinator, Jewish Art and Visual Culture Research Project, The Goldstein-Goren Diaspora Research Center, Tel Aviv University, and assistant professor of Jewish art at the Department of Art History, Tel Aviv University and is currently a fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies, at the University of Michigan.

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Parsha Shlach

Moshe Yosef, special to the WJN

The parsha for Saturday, June 5, is called Shlach. It deals with the incident of the spies. The spies were a group of 10 who went to scout the Promised Land before entering it for conquest. Rather than having complete faith in God's will, they wanted to see for themselves what was in store. When they returned, their report was of a land with: difficult terrain; inhabitants of gigantic size; fortified, walled cities; and grapes so large that people couldn't carry a single bunch by themselves. These "facts on the ground" instilled fear in 10 of the 12 and they did their best to influence the rest of the people. The other two, Joshua and Caleb, saw the same conditions but had faith in God's will and recommended Israel proceed as God asked. When God saw the preponderance of lack of faith, it was decided that this generation needed to die out before the Promised Land could be conquered—thus the 40 years wandering in the desert before Joshua led our ancestors to conquer the land promised to us by God.

What can we learn from this parsha that can help us today? Many of us are constantly attempting to improve our relationships. This includes between us and our peers as well as between us and our God. If we are attempting to improve ourselves by improving our relationship with God, we shouldn't let anything stop us. There will inevitably be voices—internal and external—attempting to dissuade us from our goal. If we succumb to the naysayers, we will be delayed in our quest for self-improvement—as were our ancestors. If we trust that our creator has our best interests in mind, then we should push ahead in observing the mitzvahs. So, if you are considering adding a mitzvah to your portfolio of Jewish observance, or enhancing the level of a mitzvah that you already do, don't listen to the myriad of reasons why not to do so—keep your eye on the prize and just do it! ■

New initiative urges the Google generation to unplug and slow down

By Stacey Palevsky

SAN FRANCISCO (j. the Jewish news weekly of Northern California)—You have 73 new e-mails. Someone just posted on your wall. You have been tagged in a photo.

You turn on your cell phone: "4 missed calls" … "2 new voice mails" … and a long string of unread text messages.

Buzz. Ring. Tweet. Tweet. IM. Tweet.

The avalanche of connectivity is constant in today's world. Our eyes and ears are constantly stimulated with smartphones and computer notebooks that make it nearly impossible to feel unplugged from the outside world. This nonstop exchange of information creates the expectation that we are available 24/7 to reply to a text message, take a call or write an e-mail.

One Jewish initiative is seeking to change this behavior—at least for one day per week.

Known as the Sabbath Manifesto, the new initiative challenges both Jews and non-Jews to reconnect to a slower life by using the weekly day of rest to disconnect from the phones and computers—even television screens—that drown us in data and stimuli.

It's a tech timeout, if you will.

"There's clearly a social problem when we're interacting more with digital interfaces than with our fellow human beings," said former San Francisco resident Dan Rollman, creator of the Sabbath Manifesto. "Rich, engaging conversations are harder to come by than they were a few years ago. As we voyage deeper into the digital world, our attention spans are silently evaporating."

Rollman, who now lives in New York, came up with the Sabbath Manifesto concept in 2008 at a retreat for Reboot, a national nonprofit that brings together creative Jews twice a year. The gatherings give the Rebooters the time and space to brainstorm ways to reinvent Jewish rituals and ideas, and to plan large-scale endeavors or programs for their local communities.

A brainstorming session led to 10 simple directives that compose the core principles of the manifesto:

- Avoid technology.
- Connect with loved ones.
- Nurture your health.
- Get outside.
- Avoid commerce.
- Light candles.
- Drink wine.
- Eat bread.
- Find silence.
- Give back.

"Though the manifesto incorporates certain Jewish traditions, we made a conscious effort to make this project secular," Rollman said. "We believe that everyone can benefit from a respite from the relentless technology."

Reboot, based in New York but with additional staff on the West Coast, formally launched the Sabbath Manifesto with the National Day of Unplugging, which began at sundown March 19 (a Friday) and concluded at sundown March 20. It encouraged people to take on the first principle of the manifesto: Avoid technology.

"It was an odd feeling, like you're missing a limb, to reach for the BlackBerry and not have it there," said Josh Becker, a Rebooter and a first-time political candidate with his eye on the California State Assembly.

Becker, of Menlo Park, unplugged even though it was the day Democratic Party delegates were deciding, among other things, whether to endorse him or another candidate for the 21st Assembly District primary on June 8.

Becker owns a BlackBerry (his seventh) and an iPhone. He has 110,000 messages in his e-mail inbox, and while he does regularly check his gmail on Shabbat, he also attends Congregation Beth Am's weekly Shabbaton in Los Altos Hills.

continued on page 34

Re-elect Mayor John Hieftje

Tuesday, August 3rd

Mayor Hieftje at "Celebrate Israel" at the JCC in May

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TBE Mitzvah Day with Habitat for Humanity

Ronnie Simon

Temple Beth Emeth celebrated Mitzvah Day on Sunday, May 1, by participating with Habitat for Humanity Huron Valley in a project to spruce up the outside of homes in the oldest Habitat neighborhood in Washtenaw County. The day began with rain and a forecast that almost caused a cancellation; however, plans continued, and almost 200 people, worked on projects from 9 a.m. until 4 pm. Coordinators Marjorie Lesko, Marty Ludington, Karen Soebbing, Ketl Friedman-Doan, and Bob Milstein spent the day rotating among projects and making sure supplies and people were in the right places.

Yards were landscaped with trees, bushes and flowers. Children and parents built and planted flower boxes and birdhouses to give to over 20 homeowners. Porches and railings were repaired and painted, and several new storage sheds were built. Rabbi Levy headed up a bicycle repair station, and neighborhood children brought friends whose bikes needed attention. Volunteers organized registration, where bright green TBE/Habitat for Humanity t-shirts were picked up to be worn that day. Others prepared lunch for the volunteers.

Perry School served as the headquarters for neighborhood projects and afforded a gathering place for registration, food preparation, services, bike repair and lunch. Neighbors stopped by to see what was going on, and to ask why "all those people in green shirts were walking around the neighborhood." Some wanted to know how they could get involved. That was one of the goals of Habitat—to interest homeowners in "becoming more of a community and working together."

This was Temple Beth Emeth's 13th Annual Mitzvah Day—a Bat Mitzvah Year Celebration. Last year, the day was spent at Interfaith Hospitality Network's Alpha House, and previous years multiple sites hosted volunteers. Tikkun Olam, repairing the world... both an ongoing responsibility and an annual event at TBE. ■

Reconstructionist Havurah news

Aura Ahuvia, special to the WJN

Musical Shabbaton June 25-6

The Jewish community is invited to one or all of the special events sponsored by the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah on Shabbat, June 25–26, when it welcomes the music/storytelling duo David Lefkowich and Debbie Gilbert to town. The couple hails from Darchei Noam Reconstructionist Congregation in Toronto, where they have been active in the educational and cultural life of the Reconstructionist community. Lefkowich, an accomplished guitarist, songwriter, and singer, has served as a *shaliach tzibbur* (lay leader) for nearly 20 years. Gilbert is also an accomplished story teller and educator of many years.

Several special services and events are planned for the Shabbaton. On Friday, June 25, the Havurah will hold an extra musical Kabbalat Shabbat service (with instruments) led by Student Rabbi Aura Ahuvia and guest David Lefkowich at 6:15 p.m., followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck at approximately 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, June 26, services will begin with almost non-stop music at 10 a.m., led primarily by Ahuvia and Lefkowich, with the Torah service and an extended discussion beginning approximately an hour later. There will be a vegetarian/dairy luncheon at approximately 12:30 p.m., followed at about 1:15 p.m. with a special learning session, entitled "Songs of the Siddur," during which alternative or newer melodies to common prayers will be taught.

The evening program opens at 8 p.m. with a story by Debbie Gilbert and mini-concert by David Lefkowich, followed by Havdallah and a *kumsitz*, or community sing-along. Lyrics will be projected on the wall, and attendees will be able to call out the names of the songs they would like to sing.

RSVPs for any of the weekend's events would be appreciated, so that the correct quantity of chairs and food can be arranged. All programming is scheduled to take place at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. More details will appear on the website as the date grows closer.

Summer service schedule

The Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah will continue to hold its monthly musical Kabbalat Shabbat services on the fourth Fridays of each month throughout the summer. The dates will be June 25, July 23 and August 27. All services begin at 6:15 p.m., followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck afterward at approximately 7:30 p.m. They take place at the JCC.

Enrollment open for September

Enrollment for the Reconstructionist Sunday School will be open all summer. School begins mid-September. In addition, two events in August will provide prospective families an opportunity to informally check out the Reconstructionist Havurah, and find out whether or not the school might be a good fit for them.

The first event is a potluck picnic and bonfire in August, most likely at Bandemeer Park, on the north side of the city. (It is the only park in Ann Arbor that allows bonfires.) The Beit Sefer (Sunday School) director and teachers are expected to be on hand to greet families, and answer questions about the school. Details about this event will be posted to the Havurah's website later this summer.

The second event is the "Bring-A-Friend" Kabbalat Shabbat Service on Friday, August 27. On that evening, newcomers and prospective Havurah members are invited to attend services and a dairy/vegetarian dinner afterwards, hosted by current Havurah members. Many Beit Sefer families will be in attendance. These services are musical in nature, and include the playing of instruments. Services begin at 6:15 p.m., and the potluck begins at approximately 7:30 p.m. No RSVP is necessary. ■

To RSVP, or for more information on any Havurah activities, either contact Jennifer Cohen, 975-6527 or mamacohen@comcast.net, or Student Rabbi and Beit Sefer Director Aura Ahuvia, 975-9045 or Aura613@gmail.com. RSVPs can also be made directly on the Havurah's website at www.AARecon.org.

Summer at TBE

Ronnie Simon and Rabbi Lisa Delson, special to the WJN

Summer Shabbat Services at TBE

Summer services at Temple Beth Emeth reflect the preferences of the lay leaders who will conduct the 7:30 p.m. services on Fridays from July 1–August 13. The experience each week is a little different, but each includes a short talk about the Torah portion, and ends with a chance to visit over the oneg Shabbat. All are welcome to attend.

On August 20, Prospective Member Shabbat, Rabbi Levy and Cantor Rose resume leading the services. The membership committee is available to answer questions about the congregation and sponsors an ice-cream sundae oneg.

Weekly Tot Shabbat continues all summer. Tot Shabbat begins with a 5:30 p.m. service and is followed by a 6 p.m. dinner of fish sticks, mac and cheese, applesauce, animal crackers and juice. There is a full salad bar included. The dinners are $5 per person. Following dinner, children and adult gather for songs and a popsicle oneg. Visit the TBE tot's website at www.templebethemeth.org.

Women's Torah Study to continue through the summer.

Due to the great success and serious engagement of those who attend Women's Torah Study, the schedule has been extended through the summer months. The group will meet with Cantor Rose the first and third Monday of every month (except July 5). This is a great opportunity to learn about those Torah portions of the summer months that so often are skipped. No prior knowledge is necessary; all are welcome. For more information, contact Cantor Rose at 665-4744.

TNT Shabbat Lunch and Canoe Trip

Saturday, June 12, TBE's Twenties and Thirties group plans an afternoon of fun and relaxation on the Huron River. At 1 p.m. the group will enjoy a Shabbat potluck lunch at Argo Park. Then from 2–3:30 p.m. the group will take a ride down the river to Gallup Park. The cost for this event is approximately $12, plus something to share for the potluck lunch. Participants are invited to bring friends; this event is open to everyone. For more information, contact Rabbi Delson at ldelson@templebethemeth.org or 665-4744. ■

Jewish doctor hailed in new book, film

By Uriel Heilman

NEW YORK (JTA) – For years, Dr. Rick Hodes has been going about his lifesaving work in Ethiopia with little fanfare but with a loyal following.

From medical specialists scattered about the United States who offer free consults and sometimes free surgeries for his patients, to the volunteers who have done rounds with him at Mother Teresa's mission for the dying and destitute in Addis Ababa, Hodes long has been regarded as a lifesaver for otherwise hopeless, sick children in one of the world's poorest countries.

Two-and-a-half years ago, Hodes, who works for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, had his work thrust into the spotlight when CNN selected him as a finalist to be a CNN Hero. A year earlier, Hodes had been the subject of an award-winning 2006 profile story by JTA.

Now the subject of a new HBO film and book, Hodes again finds himself in the limelight. With any luck, some very sick Ethiopians with diseases like cancer, rheumatic heart disease and tuberculosis of the spine will benefit.

Already, according to Hodes, donors in California and New Jersey have contacted him about sponsoring surgery for a spinal patient—at a cost of about $13,000 per person at the hospital in Ghana that Hodes uses, compared to about $250,000 for the surgery in the United States.

But Hodes is not letting the fuss about his work get to his head.

For one thing, he claims he hasn't even read his biography, *This Is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes,* by Marilyn Berger (Harper Collins, $29.95), which was published in April.

"I can't read anything about myself," Hodes told JTA in an interview this week. "Is it any good?"

The book chronicles the work and journey that Hodes, an assimilated Jew from Long Island, took to arrive at his present station: doctor in Ethiopia, Orthodox Jew and father to a gaggle of Ethiopian children whom he adopted when they were sick or neglected, nursed back to health, and gave a life of opportunities virtually unknown in Ethiopia.

The 25-minute documentary by Susan Cohn Rockefeller, *Making the Crooked Straight,* which debuted April 14 on HBO and is available on HBO On Demand until May 15, offers glimpses of this world on film. The documentary is given over entirely to Hodes' voice.

One scene shows the Hodes household during a typical Shabbat dinner: Everyone, from the one-legged Muslim cancer patient who lives there and calls Hodes "Dad," to the Orthodox Christian sons he has formally adopted, joins hands to sing *If I had a Hammer* and talk about what they were thankful for that week. Then Hodes pushes back his glasses, holds an ArtScroll siddur to his face and recites *Kiddush*. Shabbat dinner is the only coercive religious ceremony in Hodes' multifaith household.

Hodes' family is an unlikely assemblage. Aside from Mohammed, whose chemotherapy after a leg amputation for bone cancer began on Hodes' front porch, there is Mesfin, an abandoned orphan with growth hormone deficiency. Bayelign, a former child soldier who at 13 became a professional killer, is now a registered nurse and soft-spoken elder brother to the children in Hodes' household. Bewoket, whom Hodes met in a crowded Ethiopian hospital room when Bewoket could barely breathe, had a heart twice the normal size and was expected to live no more than a couple of months, is now a healthy young man. Adissu, Bewoket's brother, once a shoeless, illiterate boy from a tiny rural village, is now a college-bound 12th-grader at a Quaker boarding school in Ohio.

Today, more than 20 people live in Hodes' three homes in Addis Ababa. Hodes has formally adopted five children, the legal limit in Ethiopia.

Hundreds more Ethiopians owe their lives to Hodes, who spends much of his scant spare time e-mailing photographs and data about his unusual patients to doctors around the world in a bid to find the right specialists, treatments and funding. He also manages the JDC's clinics in the Ethiopian city of Gondar for thousands of would-be immigrants trying to reach Israel, and he has started a project to build schools and dig wells in rural Ethiopia.

Hodes ascribes to God the tremendous good fortune he has had getting world-renowned specialists to join in on his cases.

Now an observant Jew, Hodes tells the story about how a chance encounter at a Minneapolis-area synagogue—Hodes had stopped in because he needed a place to put on tefillin and recite his morning prayers—resulted in a pair of lifesaving, free surgeries for patients with massive tumors other doctors had considered inoperable.

One of them, a Muslim patient named Merdya Abdisa, had an orange-sized tumor removed from her eye at a Catholic hospital in St. Paul by the Orthodox Jewish doctor Hodes met at the shul, Eric Nussbaum.

Nussbaum also operated on Dawit, who had a 7 1/2-pound tumor growing out of his forehead. Today Dawit is free of the tumor and is back in Ethiopia getting chemotherapy.

"For those of us who put on tefillin, if you had said to me that morning, 'Rick, if you put on tefillin today you'll save the life of a Muslim patient,' I'd have said you were nuts," Hodes told JTA.

Berger's book on Hodes is filled with similar stories, and it fills in the details about a doctor and Fulbright scholar whose quest for fulfillment took him from medical school at the University of Rochester, in upstate New York, to volunteering at a clinic in India to Aish HaTorah yeshiva in Jerusalem and, finally, to Ethiopia in 1990 on a six-week mission for the JDC. Two decades on, he's still there.

For Hodes, the book and film are just two more avenues that might help his patients get help. In an interview ostensibly about the publicity surrounding his work, Hodes quickly steers the conversation to his patients—and how little money it takes to save lives in Ethiopia.

"We have 300 cases of Hodgkin's disease per year that come to Addis. We can cure 80 percent of Hodgkin's disease with ABVD, the same drugs you get at Sloan-Kettering," Hodes says of the renowned cancer hospital in New York City. "We just need the funding."

Hodes' lobbying for patients never takes a break. "He has a very deep-rooted moral compass," Zvi Kresch, a medical student who volunteers with Hodes, says in Berger's book. "He looks at how he can affect certain circumstances regardless of whether or not it's the best thing for him. It's not within Rick's realm of understanding to turn your back on need." ■

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Teens

New beginnings

Noa Gutterman, staff writer

Noa Gutterman

I hope they have crab apple trees in Wisconsin. If they don't, I may have to fly home to Ann Arbor for the week that they bloom. It never happens the same week each year, but for seven precious days, the trees that line the streets of my neighborhood burst effervescently with tiny pink blossoms. The earliest memory I have is of the crab apple blossoms. I remember running my hands through the soft petals that littered our yard the week after the bloom. I remember wanting to become a part of the tree, to simply melt into its branches, and become its petals. This may just have been because they were pink, and I have always had an affinity for pink things, but as I prepare to leave Ann Arbor in August, I have become more and more concerned about the possible lack of crab apple trees in Madison.

Following Pesach, the holiday that celebrates crab apple blossoms, we anticipate Lag Ba'Omer on the 33rd day of the Omer and Shavuot on the last day of the Omer. Shavuot marks the event of the Jewish people receiving the 10 commandments on Mt. Sinai. This event also serves as the transition period for the Jewish nation between slavery in Egypt and freedom in Canaan.

Ignoring the slavery issue, I strongly identify with this event as a parallel to my current transition. By the time that this article is published, I will be an official high school graduate, about to leave Ann Arbor for the next phase of my life. And while I am unbelievably excited to be going to the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the fall, (Go Badgers!) there are many things that will be hard to leave behind. I will miss the pilgrimage of Maize and Blue lovers on Saturday mornings. I will miss the lines stretching for blocks outside of Zingerman's. I will miss the unpredictable weather, the undeniable liberalism, and the underrated sense of joy that seems to waft out of the pores of the sidewalks of Main Street.

Last year on Shavuot, I wrote about how I went to the Western Wall at 4 a.m. to be a part of the crowds of people that dress in all white and gather at the base of the Temple Mount. This year I write about springtime and Ann Arbor. The year between my Shavuot in Jerusalem and my Shavuot on my last Wednesday at Huron High School has brought about many changes in my life. I spent months stressing about test scores, college essays, and class sizes; yet my life has suddenly become anti-climactic. School is almost over, the college decisions have been made, and now I find myself becoming nostalgic about leaving Ann Arbor. Next year, the 416 miles that will separate me from Ann Arbor will make it much harder for me to order a chai tea latte at Sweetwaters. Or to sit by the river in the Arb. Or to eat superman ice cream from Kilwin's.

I wish that when "bloom week" happened this year during the 3rd week of April, that I had thought to collect the fallen petals and save them for next year. But, nothing is forever, especially not flower blossoms. They were gone exactly seven days after they appeared on the tress. And this week, as I look out my window, I see the crab apples beginning to form. Small and bright, and ruby red, just like Wisconsin. ■

MJSF accepting student award nominations

Hedy Blatt, special to the WJN

The Michigan Jewish Sports Foundation is accepting applications for qualified male and female high school athletes for four prestigious awards: the *Detroit Jewish News* Male and Female High School Athlete of the Year and The Bill Hertz Memorial Scholarship Award for two college scholarships, one each for a male and female athlete. These awards honor the efforts and accomplishments of Jewish high school athletes and promotes physical fitness, academic achievement, and sports activities for youth. The deadline is July 6, 2010.

Detroit Jewish News Male and Female High School Athlete of the Year. These awards are based on athletic achievement by Jewish Michigan high school athletes. Recipients have traditionally been graduating seniors recognized for their career accomplishments. These awards are presented in conjunction with the Detroit Jewish News. Students can nominate themselves, be nominated by a coach and/or parent, or be nominated based on research conducted by the MJSF selection committee.

The Bill Hertz Memorial Scholarship Award, two college scholarships, one each for a male and female athlete, based upon financial need. Named in memory of MJSF board member Bill Hertz, these scholarship awards are to be used for tuition during the awardees' freshman year of college. The two award winners are chosen based on need, academic achievement, and athletic participation. Our recipients are Jewish graduating seniors who have had a commendable career in terms of participation in high school sports, an outstanding academic record and demonstrated financial need.

Student award winners will be honored at the MJSF 2010 Hall of Fame Induction Dinner, which will take place on Monday evening, October 25, at the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit in West Bloomfield.

Nomination applications are on the Michigan Jewish Sports Foundation's website and Facebook page at: www.michiganjewishsports.org and www.facebook.com/ michiganjewishsports.

The Michigan Jewish Sports Foundation is a 501(c)(3) philanthropic organization committed to raising funds for charitable contributions to benefit health, education and the less privileged and to honoring Jewish athletes with a Michigan connection.

Camp Keshet: taking the learning outside

Peretz Hirshbein, special to the WJN

As the calendar turned to May, the staff of the JCC Early Childhood Center eagerly started looking forward to summer. Summertime means it is time to transform the preschool program into Camp Keshet, the JCC's summer camp for preschoolers. While Camp Keshet has been around for years, this will be the third summer for Camp Keshet's new model featuring an outdoor learning environment that stimulates children's learning in all developmental areas. ECC teachers make use of the outdoors as a learning resource throughout the year, but only during Michigan's summer can the outdoors be used every day for all parts of a preschooler's morning routine.

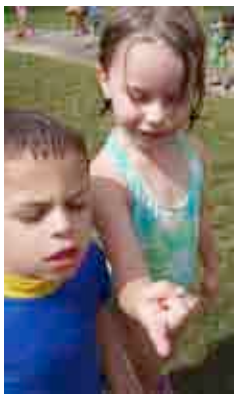
So why do children need outdoor learning? According to Mary Rivkin, author of *The Great Outdoors*, children today know less about nature, the flora and fauna of their immediate environments than prior generations, since their knowledge comes from sources like books and television, rather than direct experience. Direct experiences with nature teach children to treasure the environment and provide the emotional attachment to our world that will inspire them to engage in *tikkun Olam,* repairing the world.

"Furthermore," Rivkin says, "The development of children's perceptual abilities may suffer when so much of their experience is through TV, computers, books, and media that require but two senses." Young children, particularly, are sensory-motor learners. Memories are attached to sounds, smells, and tastes, not just sight and sound. Movement and activity reinforce and fix knowledge. Outside, in nature, we use all of our senses to learn about the world around us, not just two. Outside, we have the freedom and desire to move, and be active.

The centerpiece of the camp program is the outdoor classroom environment. Utilizing large tents for art, block, dramatic play, and manipulative areas, the camp provides the children with interest areas and materials that are familiar. By bringing familiar materials outside, and by adding materials that can only be used outside, children experience the familiar in a completely different way.

What does a typical morning at Camp Keshet look like? The camp day starts with Greeting Time, when campers greet the day and find out about any changes to the regular routine. Greeting Time is followed by Small Group Time, when a small group of campers works on an activity such as painting, building, or gardening with their teacher. Then, children plan their activities for Work Time, the centerpiece of the morning, when they can choose to work with any of the materials available in the learning environment. Frequent sights include children painting, building with fallen tree limbs, exploring nature with magnifying glasses, Following Work Time, children reflect on what they accomplished, reminding them that their work has meaning. Some days, children gather in large groups for music and movement activities, but on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Camp Keshet travels to the Tot Pool at nearby Buhr Park for an hour of swimming. Wednesdays feature field trips, walks to the local library, or exploring a nearby nature reserve.

When the staff at the ECC first took the preschool program outside into an outdoor classroom, the teachers discovered how rich this learning could be. Director Noreen DeYoung says, "Moving the program outdoors provides the children with an authentic summer camp experience. We felt that it was important for children to experience the many different sights, textures and smells that the outdoors has to offer." Nancy Witter, a teacher at the ECC, says that "The contrast between the man-made environment in the classroom and the natural environment of the outdoors was obviously a learning experience. One of the biggest differences was natural sunlight instead of artificial light. Natural light changed with the weather and time of day. Sunlight and shade moved across the outdoors."



Olivia Braun and Joey Scarcella look at ladybug on Olivia's finger

Emiliano Diosdado, Samantha Goldstein, Aditya Kidiyoor, Charlie Lacy, and Yoni Andorsky experience painting in natural light

Teachers noticed that the children had far richer experiences outdoors, using the same materials that they might have used inside. The book area, set under a large hickory tree had the same kinds of books and comfortable places to sit as existed inside. But Witter noticed that the experience was totally different: "Sitting on a blanket and reading a book was a science activity. Hickory nuts, leaves, and twigs were on the ground. Squirrels were in the treetops gnawing on the nuts and dropping pieces of the hulls down on the ground. Insects were crawling on the bark of the trunk!"

Research on children and outdoor learning indicates that spending time outdoors reduces conflict as well. ECC teacher Michelle Paris noted that, "Even though children often worked close together, we saw much less conflict between children in the eight weeks we spent in the outdoor classroom." Spending time outdoors reduces stress levels, allowing people of all ages to respond to potential conflict far more calmly. Lowered stress also increases people's ability to concentrate and be aware of what is going on around them. For example, ECC children used large pieces of lumber all summer to create structures, but according to DeYoung, "The children were so aware of what they were doing that in eight weeks we did not have a single case of wood getting dropped on anyone! I attribute that to the open spaces the children had to build and this increase in awareness."

Samantha Markel turns up the water at Buhr pool

Learning experiences taking place outside have a richness missing from the same experiences indoors, as the changing natural world adds layers of learning. The American Jewish community realized long ago how important outdoor experiences are for children, playing a major role in the development of Fresh Air Fund camps across the country.

According to nature education advocate Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods,* outdoor education is so valuable because it focuses on, "the elements that have always united humankind: driving rain, hard wind, warm sun, forests deep and dark—and the awe and amazement that our earth inspires, especially during our formative years."

For questions about Camp Keshet, contact Noreen DeYoung, JCC Early Childhood director, at 971-0990 or noreendeyoung@jccfed.org, or visit the JCC's website at www.jccannarbor.org. ■

"Who's in the story?"—studying Torah with preschoolers at ECC

Noreen DeYoung, special to the WJN

Over the course of a cold week in February, JCC Early Childhood Center Assistant Director Peretz Hirshbein was seen dragging a box full of costumes into each of the preschool classrooms, where he was immediately greeted by the gathered children with cries of "Who's in the story?" What followed was a unique mixture of storytelling, dramatic play, and group discussion as Hirshbein and the preschoolers met for their weekly Torah story. As he sat down with each group, he asked, "So, where are we?" Children called out answers: "In the pit!" "In Canaan!" "On a camel!" They were recalling where Joseph was when they had last met for Torah stories. This week, the children were in the middle of the Joseph story, one of the most dramatic, suspense-filled stories in Bereishit, or Genesis, the first book of the Torah.

Just as in a serial novel, the story of Joseph and his family unfolded in a series of episodes. After getting everyone oriented and recalling which children had turns the week before, the children chose parts. In one classroom, a boy named Joe got to be Joseph, while his classmate Ben played Joseph's younger brother Benjamin. Girls consented to play brothers, and soon most of the class was garbed in biblical looking costumes. Before launching into the story, Hirshbein asked for ideas about placement of the pit and how the brothers could act out putting Joseph in the pit. Then the story began, as Hirshbein narrated, and the children acted out the actions of the characters. Periodically, he would pause, and ask questions that explored how the brothers felt about Joseph, or how Joseph must have felt in the pit. Most of the children had siblings, and could identify with the feelings of Joseph's brothers, whose father loved Joseph more than the rest.

"I want Torah stories to be meaningful and relevant for the children" says Hirshbein. "When we literally put the children in the shoes of Abraham and Sarah and their descendents, the characters come alive. As the children portray the characters, they and their classmates can imagine what our ancestors might have felt, and narrative becomes very interesting to them." After spending several years telling the weekly Torah stories in a more traditional way, Hirshbein was looking to improve children's recall of the central narrative of the first two books of the Torah, and he hoped that some of the underlying messages about relationships between people would be internalized by the children. After working with previous preschoolers to act out a few specific stories, like the Passover story, he decided to try from the beginning of the Torah. While the children enjoyed acting out stories like Noah, and the Tower of Babel, the narrative really came to life when they got to the story of Abraham and Sarah's family. "The most thrilling part of all of this," says Hirshbein "is how excited the children get about learning Torah – they always want more!"

Carl Gombert, Maddie Grand, Joseph Schwalb, Charlie Lacy, Benjamin Casciano, and Emiliano Diosdado act out a scene of the story of Passover

ECC teacher Julie Bass explains why this approach works: "Children are better able to understand emotions, thoughts and the rationale of things that happened in ancient times by interacting with the material. They can sympathize with characters thoughts and emotions by portraying the characters. Dramatizing the stories gives "the abstract preschooler" a "concrete" perspective. This personal involvement with the Torah gives children a better, more concrete understanding of Judaic beliefs."

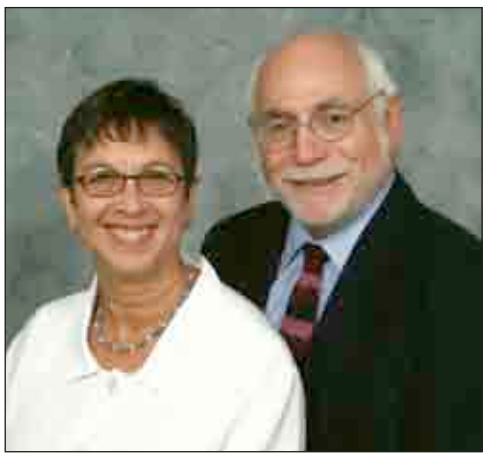
Parents at the ECC agree, as children are taking the Torah home to talk about with their parents. ECC Parent Kristin Dziczek says that "Oh yes, these stories are coming home! I get a detailed narrative every week, and sometimes elements of stories from weeks past creep into conversations about contemporary issues." Fellow parent Natalie Iglezicz reports that "Rosa tells us the stories almost every week. She will either tell us directly at dinner time or she will act it out in a play." Dziczek warns however that, "On my birthday, Evan told me "Mom, you're just like Isaac. He was old when he had Jacob and Esau too!"

To find out how your child can get excited about learning Torah at the JCC Early Childhood Center, call 971-0990 or go to the JCC website: www.jccannarbor.org. ■

HDS launches fundraising campaign

Rachel Siegal, special to the WJN

The Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor has launched a fundraising campaign in honor of its upcoming 36th anniversary. The campaign will culminate in a celebratory event on Sunday, March 13, 2011, and will honor local leaders Susan and Barry Gross. The 36th anniversary initiative is chaired by Judy and Todd Endelman.



Todd and Judy Endelman, 36th anniversary co-chairs, Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor

Judy and Todd Endelman are Californians who moved east in 1970—first to Israel, then to Boston, New York City, and Bloomington, Indiana, before they landed in Ann Arbor, in 1985. Todd came to take the position of professor of history at the University of Michigan. He served as director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies for 11 years and is currently the William Haber Professor of Modern Jewish History. After a one-year fellowship at the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan, Judy joined the staff of The Henry Ford in Dearborn, in 1986, where she has held a variety of leadership positions in the collections, curatorial and research areas. She is currently the director of the Benson Ford Research Center.

Judy and Todd are longtime supporters of the Hebrew Day School. Their children, Flora and Michael, are both alumni. Todd currently serves on the HDS board and has taken leadership roles in several HDS fundraising campaigns. In 2005, they established the Miriam Epstein Library Endowment Fund in memory of Judy's mother.

"When we moved to Ann Arbor, the presence of the Hebrew Day School was definitely a plus and I am very pleased I was able to provide my children with a strong secular and Jewish education." says co-chair Judy Endelman. "Their experience at HDS was critical to the development of their Jewish identities. It's our responsibility to ensure that the school continues to be available to coming generations of Jewish children," Judy added.

"Having been affiliated with the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies for most of my professional life, I can tell you that the presence of a full-time Jewish day school in Ann Arbor has been a key component in attracting Jewish faculty to the University of Michigan," says co-chair Todd Endelman. "We cannot over-estimate the importance of having a Jewish day school in our community."

For almost 36 years, the Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor has been educating Jewish children. It is the only dual-language immersion program in the city. HDS is a school of 85 students and serves the entire range of religious and cultural Jewish expression in Ann Arbor and the surrounding area. It is located in the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor.

The first graduates of the school are now adults in their early 40s; the current student body now includes two students who are children of HDS alumni from the early 1980s. "We are a vital component of Jewish life in Ann Arbor," says Dina Shtull, head of HDS. "It is our responsibility to steward the school toward its next 36 years."

"We are so grateful to Todd and Judy for spearheading this community milestone," says Shtull. "We are also grateful to our long-time school supporters, Prue and Ami Rosenthal, for agreeing to serve as our honorary chairs of our campaign. Five years ago, at our 30th anniversary event, we honored Harlene and Henry Appelman. It was a momentous occasion. We now look forward to celebrating our 36th anniversary milestone and honoring community leaders, Susan and Barry Gross." ■

For more information on the 36th anniversary initiative, contact the Hebrew Day School at 971-4633 or visit www.hdsaa.org.

Third-grader Leo Fried wins medal in National Math Olympiad contest

Dina Shtull, special to the WJN

Leo Fried, a third grader at the Hebrew Day School, won the Silver Medal in a national math competition geared toward students in grades 4–6. Leo has been studying math at HDS in a small group tutorial geared toward his level of math understanding and achievement. Leo also participates in a weekly lunch-time Math Olympiad club run by HDS parent volunteer Martin Strauss. Strauss is associate professor of mathematics and associate professor of electrical engineering and computer science at the University of Michigan. The math competition won by Fried was sponsored by Math Olympiad, a nonprofit organization that supports math education in school by encouraging parents to organize Math Olympiad clubs.

HDS Math Olympia from Left to Right: Martin Strauss, Zach Rochman, Leo Fried, Mira Strauss, Emma Bloch, Liana Dunietz, Adi Bamberger, Ayelet Pollock

Leo Fried, Silver Medal Winner

What is the sum of the numbers from one to 100? This was a question presented to mathematician Carl Frederick Gauss when, as a young boy, he couldn't sit still in class. The answer, which apparently Gauss solved promptly, was 5050. How did Gauss determine the answer? If the whole number N is divisible by the number seven, and N leaves a remainder of 1 when divided by 2, 3, 4, or 5, what is the smallest value that N can be? These are examples of typical questions asked in the Math Olympiad competition. (Other sample Olympiad problems can be found at http://www.moems.org/sample_files/SampleE.pdf).

Math Olympiad was created in 1977 by Dr. George Lenchner, an internationally known math educator. This past year 150,000 students from 6,000 teams worldwide participated in the Olympiads. Forty-nine of the 50 states and 30 other countries were represented. The contests are given in the local schools and eliminate the need for travel. The purpose of Math Olympiad is to stimulate enthusiasm and a love for mathematics, but also to strengthen mathematical intuition and teach strategies for problem solving. "The students are learning creative out-of-the-box techniques for solving problems," says Strauss, who also organized a Sciencepalooza weekend at the Hands on Museum. "They are learning to take their time and check their work," he explains.

In addition to Leo Fried, the HDS Math Olympiad regular participants included Adi Bamberger, Emma Block, Liana Dunietz, Ayelet Pollock, Zach Rochman, and Mira Strauss. They practiced problems that do not necessarily fit into a particular curriculum box. Because the problems cross different fields of math, creative solutions are necessary. On days when the students didn't focus on solving sample contest problems, they played with Rubik cubes and challenging tavern puzzles such as blacksmith puzzles and remove a ring.

"It was fun learning new strategies to solve math problems," said participant Adi Bamberger. Fourth grader Emma Block added, "It made math more interesting to me." Leo Fried appreciated the collaboration. "It is nice that all the people that like math can get together and work on it," he said. ■

Hebrew Play Group outgrowth of Jubilation

WJN *staff writers*

An independent Hebrew school, Hebrew Play Group (HPG), has flourished for the last ten years under the direction of Lauren Zinn, Ph.D. and Interfaith Minister. Rev Zinn, ordained in 2002 by Rabbi Gelberman, taught at Beth Israel Religious School under Rabbi Allan Kensky and again under Rabbi Robert Dobrusin. She founded and led congregation Jewbilation from 2001–2006. She also served as an NJOP volunteer, teaching Hebrew literacy to adults. She has continued to teach children of intermarried Jews, has guided several of her students through bar/bat mitzvahs and has conducted baby namings for their siblings, as well as for babies of intermarried couples for whom she has performed weddings. Some of the weddings included students from her days teaching at Beth Israel Religious School who grew up and chose non-Jewish partners. In addition to HPG, Rev Zinn serves on the leadership committee for Inclusivist Judaism Coalition (IJC), a Jewish organization for adult children of intermarried couples.

The Hebrew Play Group celebrated the conclusion of its academic year with a full service breakfast for parents, prepared by HPG Masters students and served by HPG Juniors. Hebrew menus, aprons and placemats, made by the kids, were part of the décor. Students led a short family service following breakfast and all played Hebrew bingo showcasing students' recent studies.

At HPG, Rev Zinn maintains a small class size and teaches reading, writing, values, history, holidays, prayers and songs. She also explores with her students the nature of different religions and the different branches of Judaism, resulting in, what one parent describes as, "the most philosophically stimulating conversations" of the week for her family.

The HPG Juniors group is now accepting new students for Fall 2010. Contact laurenzinn@gmail.com for more information.

JCC youth activities

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Camp Raanana introduces 2010 staff

Camp Raanana has announced its staff, specialists, and counselors for summer 2010, including many returning staff members as well as a few additions to the staff. "Camp Raanana works hard to assemble a staff of talented, dynamic, and mature individuals to ensure that each camper will have an incredible summer camp experience," said Deborah Huerta, camp director.

Huerta is looking forward to her third year as the Camp Raanana director after experiencing two very enjoyable and successful camp seasons in 2008 and 2009. Currently the JCC Youth, Teen, and Camp Director, Huerta grew up as an active member of the metro-Detroit Jewish community. She went on to earn a bachelor's and master's degree in Judaic Studies from the University of Michigan, and now lives in Ann Arbor with her husband. Huerta loves serving as the Camp Raanana director during the summer and working with Camp Raanana's staff, campers, and families.

The JCC welcomes Shoshana Jackson as the assistant camp director this summer. Jackson grew up in Ann Arbor and attended Broward College in Florida. Since returning to Ann Arbor several years ago, she has been taking education classes at EMU and teaching religious school at Temple Beth Emeth and the Reconstructionist Havurah. Her previous camping experience includes three summers at Camp Deer Trails, a residential Girl Scouts camp. She served as a unit head counselor during her first year and was promoted to assistant director for her second and third summers at Camp Deer Trails. Jackson is looking forward to returning to the camping world after taking last summer off to spend with her husband and newborn son.

Kim Braun is once again returning as Camp Raanana's waterfront director. During the school year, Braun is the physical education teacher for the JCC and Hebrew Day School. She has taught at the JCC since 1999 and loves working with her current and former students at Camp Raanana. She enjoys teaching children to appreciate the water and has over 20 years of experience as a certified lifeguard, water safety instructor, and CPR and lifeguard instructor.

Lauren Nilsson is also returning this summer as Camp Raanana's assistant waterfront director. Nilsson has a bachelor of science degree in elementary education from Eastern Michigan University. She has previously worked at HDS, as well as in the Duck and Frog rooms at the JCC's Early Childhood Center. This will be Nilsson's seventh summer working at Camp Raanana's waterfront, and she looks forward to spending another summer helping children learn to swim.

Huerta, Jackson, Braun, and Nilsson will be joined by a talented group of specialists and counselors at Camp Raanana. Long-time staff member Alan Piracha will be serving as the special programs coordinator; Jonathan Lerman of Netanya, Israel, will be serving as the Judaic programs specialist; Noah Wagner is returning for his third year as music specialist; and Jenny Cook is returning to camp as the art and nature specialist this year. Camp Raanana's head counselors for the summer include returning staff members Sarah Mirsky, Mira Preston, Jenny Gordon, Sarah Tanoury, Erica Riba, and Ian Soo Hoo, as well as two new staff members, Adi Rinker of Haifa, Israel, and Alex Levy, originally from Connecticut.

Deborah Huerta Shoshana Jackson Kim Braun Lauren Nilsson

Camp Raanana's head counselors will be assisted by enthusiastic junior counselors and counselors-in-training. The junior counselors this year will be Dan Ehrlich, David Schapiro, Eli Sugerman, Hannah Dubov, Joe Mirsky, Jack McWhinnie, and Ilana Spaulding. The counselors-in-training this summer will be Tuval Vaknin, David Berman, Hannah Schapiro, Hannah King, Alex Sugerman, Sara Norich, Alexa Pinsky, Tomer Chen, Eric Shayna, Katia Kassof, and Marlowe Susselman.

Pictures and bios of all the camp staff are available at www.campraanana.com. Registration forms, brochures, and further details about the camp are also available on the website. The registration deadline for Camp Raanana is June 1, but families interested in registering after the deadline may contact camp director Deborah Huerta at 971-0990 to inquire about space availability.

Camp Raanana Open House on June 17

All families who are registered for Camp Raanana are invited to the annual Camp Open House on Thursday, June 17, from 6–8 p.m.

The Open House will be held at Camp Raanana's private beachfront site at Independence Lake Park (3200 Jennings Road, Whitmore Lake). This will be an opportunity for families to tour the campsite, meet the counselors and staff, and enjoy fun activities and a free kosher hot dog or veggie dog dinner with other camp families.

Israeli counselors host families needed

Each year two Israeli *shlichim* join the staff of Camp Raanana, to enrich the lives of campers and benefit the broader Ann Arbor Jewish community. The *shlichim* are talented young Israelis who have finished their military service and chosen to spend their summers serving as counselors and Israeli specialists at camps across North America. Camp Raanana's *shlichim* not only have a wonderful impact on the campers, but they also provide local families who serve as host families with an unparalleled experience.

Carol Lessure, whose family hosted a *shaliach* for several summers, remarked that their *shaliach* quickly became part of the family and captivated her two young sons with stories of Israeli life. She said, "When we volunteered to host one of the *shlichim* for the first time, I wasn't sure our location and modest accommodations would be sufficient.

continued on page 20

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More at Amer's

by Amer Bathish, Owner

Since 1988 I have been working hard to offer my customers great food at an affordable price. I have been using local products from the beginning. Some of my favorites are Sy Ginsberg's corned beef and pastrami. I remember meeting Sy in 1988 and touring his meat shop in Detroit's Eastern Market. I was only 23 years old, and after that day I knew I would only use his meats. The corned beef is cooked in our kitchens, trimmed lean and sliced. We offer three sandwich sizes depending on your appetite: Small, 3 ounces $4.89, Regular 6oz $6.69, and Super 9oz $7.89 for our sandwich #9 Plain Jayne, Corned Beef on rye served with an old and new dill pickle. Our #3 Mike's Mischief, is a crowd favorite, corned beef or pastrami, Swiss cheese, coleslaw and Russian dressing (both made in house) on rye.

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We cook and make a lot of food at Amer's; Salads by the Pound, Soups, Dressings, Tortes, Pastries. Our Mediterranean foods are made using my mother's recipes; falafel, hummus, baba ghanouj, zahra bhe tahini, tabouli, fatoush, stuffed grape leaves and spinach pockets. We make over 100lbs of falafel weekly and always cook to order. My favorite is #66 Falafel Deluxe with hummus and tabouli.

Amer's is always changing with the times. Two years ago we brought Ann Arbor "Tart Frozen Yogurt" and last year we made it better for you! We offered 6 yogurt flavors, 50 toppings, lowered the price, and made it self-serve. What I wanted to do was give you a "fun" food experience at a better price. It became **Yogurtrush**!

Again, it's happening at Amer's. On March 20th **Chicago Reds** opened inside my location on State Street. Have you come back from a weekend in Chicago and thought, "I wish I could get a hot dog like that in A2?" Now you can! Vienna all beef hot dog, steamed poppy seed bun and "dragged through the garden" is here. Everything straight from the windy city; Vienna sport peppers, neon relish, celery salt, and chili no bean. To add to our extensive vegetarian selection, we also offer veggie "Smart Dogs" and turkey dogs. The people have spoken and the Red Hots are selling out!

Now at age 45, I look back at 22 years, and always keep thinking of "New and Fresh" ideas to stay in business in a town that I have loved since before attending the University of Michigan. As a small, local business in a town that is changing to the "franchise world" with rents as much as downtown NY City, I THANK you Ann Arbor for enjoying Amer's and keeping us going!

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JCC Early Childhood Center Garden Work Day

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

During the cold of winter, a team of five JCC Early Childhood Center teachers along with ECC Director Noreen DeYoung participated in a training program with Growing Hope, an Ypsilanti non-profit that promotes community gardening. After completing the program, the team shared their vision for the role of gardening at the ECC with the entire staff. That vision included a change in the physical layout of the garden, as well as integration of gardening with even more parts of the Jewish year. In the coming year, the ECC plans to use something from its preschool garden to create an agricultural connection to all Jewish celebrations, from fresh spices at Havdalah, to *latkes* made from potatoes grown in the garden, to *maror* made from horseradish cultivated on the playground.

On April 11, 16 families descended on the ECC playground to ready the preschool garden for planting. Parents skilled with tools built new planters. Others emptied and relocated the existing raised beds. Children helped to clear ground, spread mulch, and shovel compost into the beds. "There was a lot of camaraderie and I think it was fun for the kids to meet at their school to help create something together that they could be proud of," said ECC parent Mara Isser Sax. "Now they can watch the vegetables grow and know they helped to plant them for their school. It was a good way to learn teamwork too!"

Cody Smiley and Jonathan Parker build a raised bed, while Elliot Parker helps

Sarah Adler clears out the underbrush with her daughters Eliana and Giliah

JCC youth activities, continued from page 19

In fact, Camp Rannana assured us that all the *shlichim* need is to be included in family activities and be given a private place to sleep. What you receive in return is a life experience!"

Two *shlichim*—one male and one female—will be sharing their talents and enthusiasm with Camp Raanana this summer. Jonathan Lerman lives in Reut and is looking forward to serving as Camp Raanana's Israel culture specialist this year. Adi Rinker of Haifa is also excited to be joining Camp Raanana as a head counselor for the entering third grade group this summer.

Lerman and Rinker will be arriving in Ann Arbor around June 16 and staying for approximately nine weeks. The JCC is seeking several host families who can host for about three weeks for each of the *shlichim*. The JCC is hoping to set all the host families by June 1, but host families for the end of the summer may still be needed after that date, so contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990 if are interested in serving as a host family.

Summer break program August 23–27

Due to the timing of Labor Day this year, many schools are starting almost a week later than usual in the fall. To help bridge the gap between the end of many camp programs and the start of school, the JCC will offer a Summer Fun Days program from August 23–27. Each day will feature a field trip or special activity, plus crafts, games, and gym time or outdoor recess. Students should bring a nut free, dairy lunch and appropriate clothing for playing outside.

The Summer Fun Days are for JCC members ONLY in grades K-5; middle school students are also welcome to participate as helpers for a reduced fee. The cost for each day is $36 for care from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. ($32 for additional siblings) and $10 for extended care from 4–6 p.m. Participants may sign up for one or more days.

Programming details and registration forms will be available in late June at www.jccannarbor.org and at the JCC. Registration and payment are due by Monday, August 16, but spaces may fill up before then.

Afterschool programs registration opening

The JCC is looking forward to providing another great year of afterschool programs for 2010–2011. Monthly tuition fees have not been increased for the 2010–2011 school year, and tuition also includes extended care during JCC programs on days off from school. As always, the JCC's afterschool programs are designed to provide the fun and excitement children desire and the safety and convenience parents need.

The JCC offers two afterschool program options, Kids' Konnection and Kids' Club. Kids' Konnection caters to students in kindergarten through second grade with nurturing staff, daily group time, and supervised activities. Kids' Club is designed to meet the interests of third through fifth graders with designated homework time, separate hang-out spaces, and activity choices. Both programs run from 3:20–6 p.m. daily. Parents interested in afterschool programs for 6th–8th graders should inquire about the JCC's Middle School Helpers program.

The JCC's afterschool programs offer convenient scheduling options, allowing parents to choose schedules from 2 to 5 days per week. Drop-in care is also available for students who need afterschool care only occasionally or less than 2 days per week, or for students who need additional days beyond their normal schedule. Afterschool program participants receive discounts on youth enrichment classes at the JCC and priority enrollment for the JCC's School's Out, Snow Day, and Vacation Fun Days programs.

Several afternoon transportation options are available for students who attend local elementary schools. Ann Arbor Public Schools provide free bus transportation to the JCC from Bryant, Pattengill, and Ann Arbor Open schools. The JCC may also be able to provide transportation from some other elementary schools. ■

For more information about the JCC's youth programs, contact Youth Director Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990. Registration forms are available at the JCC and at www.jccannarbor.org.

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Study of American Jews making its way into Israeli schools

By Dina Kraft

TEL AVIV, Israel (JTA)—The Jews of America may be the largest Jewish community in the Diaspora, but that does not mean Israeli schoolchildren learn much about them.

Sixty-two years after Israel's founding, its school system still largely sticks to the Zionist trope that all Jews should live in Israel and those who do not at the very least should be actively engaged in helping support the Jewish state. In turn, there is scant study of contemporary Jewish life in America.

"The bottom line is that there is very little taught, if there is anything at all," said Daniel Gross, a Hebrew University graduate student who has researched the topic. But there is some change afoot.

Signaling the beginning of a shift in direction, 11th- and 12th-graders preparing for the national history matriculation exam this year for the first time were required to study a unit on American Jewry's contribution to the Jewish people after the Holocaust.

Orna Katz-Atar, a high school history teacher who drew up the new curriculum for the Education Ministry, said that plans are under way to introduce a new unit on Israel and the Diaspora, with a focus on American Jewry, probably by the fall of 2012. "We are in the process of building the curriculum, gathering material and teaching the teachers," Katz-Atar said.

At a time when studies show a declining sense of kinship between American Jews and their Israeli counterparts, Israelis' unfamiliarity with Diaspora Jewry is a subject of some concern in America. This lack of familiarity only exacerbates tensions over divisive Israel-Diaspora issues, such as the debate over who is a Jew. There is a feeling that members of the world's two largest Jewish populations know less about each other with each passing generation.

Until this year, when and if the subject of American Jewry was taught at all in Israeli schools, it usually was within the context of the great wave of Jewish migration in the 19th century, the life of Jews in America between the world wars and what American Jews did to try to help their brethren during the Holocaust.

Policymakers feared that "showing a successful Diaspora might encourage emigration," Gross said. "Another problem has been how the religious schools would teach about Reform or Conservative Judaism, and how the topic might hurt the Zionist agenda."

A 2005 report by the American Jewish Committee found that only 14 percent of Israeli teachers surveyed said they taught about Reform or Conservative Judaism in their schools in the previous three years.

While Israeli students are beginning now to study more about American Jewry, the focus remains on American Jews' connection to Israeli history. In preparation for the history matriculation exam, Israeli students are taught about the aid American Jews provided at postwar DP camps, and the role American Jews played in helping lobby the White House to support Israel's creation.

"I tell my students all the time that we and the American Jews are brothers," Katz-Atar said. "It's important that students understand that we did not do everything alone, that the Zionist project was assisted by the entire Jewish world."

One place where Diaspora studies are taught differently is in Modiin, a rapidly growing city midway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. For the past five years, seventh-graders have been studying a course called "Friends Across the Sea" as part of a pilot program initiated by the Education Ministry, the TALI educational fund and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

In this new curriculum, students learn about the various Jewish religious denominations, the challenges of Jewish continuity and Diaspora concerns over intermarriage. A section on Jewish feminism includes the emergence of female rabbis.

The program's backers want to bring the curriculum to public schools across Israel—and to translate it into English for study in American Jewish schools and into other languages for other Diaspora communities.

"I think it's a result of changes in 1990s, when increasing numbers of Israelis encountered the Jewish American community through organized delegations," said Varda Rafael, an educator who helped coordinate the project. They "realized we can learn from each other—not copy each other, but inspire one another."

Gross says the Israeli perception of American Jewry is changing, at least in academic circles. "In the past, Israelis would say of American Jewry that they chose not to be with us, but if they want to support us financially or politically that's great," he said. "But now there is the sense that maybe there is a need for greater Jewish pluralism in Israel." Israelis unhappy with the Orthodox monopoly on religious matters are beginning to look to American Jews for direction, Gross noted.

But among the general Israeli population, most Israelis seem to have little or no concept about the lives of their American Jewish counterparts.

Yisrael Wolman, in a scouring Op-Ed last month in the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot*, mocked his fellow Israelis for being apathetic about American Jews. "The American Jewish leadership is aging and is frightened by surveys of assimilation and low birth rates and is putting most energies into strengthening its own community," åçhe wrote, "but this does not mean a parallel blind identification with Israel. The tragedy is that for the average Israeli, it is as interesting as last year's snowfall. Tens of thousands of Israelis fly to America each year to have a great time in Times Square, gamble in Las Vegas or hang out in Disney World. How many of them have visited a single Jewish institution or have met with American Jews of their own age?"

Rabbi Ed Rettig, acting director of the American Jewish Committee in Israel, says that American Jews do almost as bad a job of educating their children about Israel as Israel does in educating their youth about American Jews.

"We in Israel, by not learning how American Jews think, lose in our capacity to engage in deep dialogue with them," he said. Israelis pay for this ignorance, he noted. "These are the same people from which we are asking for passionate advocacy within the American Jewish system, people whose own children we are sometimes disallowing as Jews. We are smacking around the people who love us most."

Shlomi Ravid, co-director of the Jewish Peoplehood Hub, a start-up that seeks to be a clearinghouse for peoplehood issues, says there is one key question. "Are we a people who has a state, or a state that has a people?" he asked. "I would say for most Israelis it's all about Israel, and the Jewish people are supposed to be source of personnel, support and funding. There is a loss of a sense that the real client here is the Jewish people, and the state is a very important expression of the agenda of the people, but it's not the soul. That Jewish life matters and is important everywhere it exists." ■

Young Israelis turning to Yiddish in search for roots

By Sue Fishkoff

BEERSHEVA, Israel (JTA)—Nufal Levanon, a 25-year-old student at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, says she rarely heard Yiddish growing up, although her Romanian-born parents both were native speakers of the language. "They'd call each other 'ziskele,' my sweetie, but that's about it," Levanon recalls.

Meira Goodman, 24, only became interested in Yiddish after her Czech-born grandmother died three years ago. "I didn't hear much Yiddish from her, but even when she spoke English, it sounded Yiddish because of the intonation," she says.

Both women are enrolled in a new Yiddish literature class at Ben-Gurion University, and Goodman also is taking a course in Yiddish language. They are part of a revival of interest in Yiddish among young Israelis.

The revival of Yiddish is part of a much greater phenomenon: young secular Israelis looking for spiritual nourishment

For their grandparents who were Israel's founders, Yiddish bore the emotional baggage of a reminder of the ghettos they had left behind in Europe. But for young Israelis in increasing numbers, Yiddish is a point of connection with their Jewish roots.

Like many of her generation, Goodman's mother, the child of a Holocaust survivor, wanted nothing to do with the language of Europe's destroyed Jewish civilization. "She swept it under the rug," Goodman says. "Now our generation is digging it up. We are unburying these hidden treasures."

In recognition of this steadily growing interest, Ben-Gurion University this spring launched a new Center for Yiddish Studies housed in the department of Hebrew literature. The idea is to create an academic fellowship of Yiddish scholars already working in the field and reach out to larger audiences with conferences, publications, analysis of the Yiddish press from Eastern Europe and perhaps even stagings of classic Yiddish theater pieces.

Professor David Roskies, a renowned Yiddish scholar from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, was tapped to head the center.

Hebrew University, Bar-Ilan University and Tel Aviv University already offer programs in Yiddish language and literature.

Although students of Yiddish have flocked to Israeli universities since Hebrew University opened Israel's first Yiddish department in 1951, the language and its culture have never enjoyed popular respect in the country.

Even before the founding of the state, Hebrew was touted as the language of the new, strong Israeli Jew, while Yiddish represented a defeated world. The dichotomy grew stronger after independence.

Professor Yechiel Szeintuch, who has taught in the Yiddish department at Hebrew University for 40 years, remembers the postwar years when "people would throw bricks at gatherings of Yiddish speakers" and the country's 300,000 Holocaust survivors tried to refrain from speaking Yiddish in public.

Last December, Szeintuch and three Hebrew University colleagues organized a four-day conference called "A Century of Yiddish," bringing experts from around the world to discuss the trajectory of the language and its culture over the past 100 years.

More than 350 people attended, but when Szeintuch was interviewed about the conference on Israeli radio, he says the show's hosts treated it like a joke.

"They said a conference on Yiddish? What, a bunch of old men peeling apples in the park?" Szeintuch recalls.

Roskies is upbeat about his mandate to create a safe haven for Yiddish studies in the middle of the Negev Desert. As a 40-year veteran of teaching Yiddish at the university level, Roskies says he was stunned his first week at Ben-Gurion to learn that 90 students had signed up for his elective course on the Yiddish writer Sholem Aleichem.

"There's something amazing going on in this country, and this is just the tip of the iceberg," he says. "There is a spiritual awakening in Israel, a return to one's severed past. Yiddish was pushed aside to make room for Hebrew. This is a third generation not locked into its Oedipal complex."

Roskies sees the revival of interest in Yiddish as part of a much greater phenomenon: young secular Israelis looking for spiritual nourishment within Judaism, but outside the controls of the Orthodox establishment. Independent prayer groups are springing up throughout the country, he says, along with workshops devoted to the study of liturgical poems and Chasidic melodies.

Galia Shauli, 33, who studies Yiddish at Hebrew University, says she was raised "100 percent secular" by her kibbutznik mother and Russian-immigrant father.

"Two or three years ago I started wondering about my roots, about my Judaism," she says. "I was raised to believe [Jewish identity] all started in Israel, but it didn't."

Roskies says one of the challenges of developing Ben-Gurion's new Yiddish studies center is the lack of classic Yiddish literature available in Hebrew. A new Hebrew translation of Sholom Aleichem's Tevye stories, on which Fiddler on the Roof was based, came out last fall in Israel and was on the best-seller list for four months, he says. But that's a rarity.

"While Israel was building a state, America was the place of refuge where the severed branches [of Eastern European Jewry] could be collected and preserved," Roskies says. "Yiddish scholarship existed in Israel, but it was very academic and conducted mostly in Hebrew in order to 'prove' they weren't 'Yiddishists.' We didn't have that problem in America."

Roskies has no illusions about reviving Yiddish as a living language. Despite the 2 million to 3 million Yiddish speakers in the world today, very few outside the Chasidic world or the very elderly speak it as their first language. The importance of the new Ben-Gurion center, he says, is to provide a boost to the study of Yiddish culture as a whole within the Jewish state and to help Israelis recover a discarded part of their identity. "I see it as a peoplehood project," he says. "I can now bring that severed piece of Jewish culture to Israel, where it can flourish." ■

Sue Fishkoff was a participant in the American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev's Murray Fromson Media Mission to Israel.

Community gathers to celebrate Israel as an "Innovation Nation"

Eileen Freed, special to the WJN

Despite the threat of rain, almost 600 members of the Ann Arbor community gathered at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor for the sixth annual Celebrate Israel. A range of activities and booths highlighted Israel's status as an "Innovation Nation." Some favorites included the Better Place Test Track, the HDS Puzzle and Brain Game booth and the Habonim display of Irbutzim (Urban Kibbutz).

This year's Ohel Nahalal (Nahalal Tent) attracted visitors with its displays of old and new Nahalal and creative team-building games. Nahalal delegation head, Arik Mekler, said, "We enjoyed all the people who visited the tent. It is exciting to see the connection between our two communities grow."

Festival organizers were pleased to welcome a number of dignitaries including Ann Arbor Mayor John Hieftje, Ann Arbor City Councilman Mike Anglin, Washtenaw County Clerk Laurence Kestenbaum, Washtenaw County Commissioner Mark Ouimet, State Representative Pam Byrnes and State Senator Liz Brater. Additionally, newly arrived Israeli Deputy Consul General for the Midwest region, Shahar Arieli, participated in the festival and expressed his appreciation for the exuberance with which the Ann Arbor community observed Israel's Independence Day.

Nahalal delegation head Arik Mekler

Deputy Consul General Shahar Arieli

The involvement of over 20 local organizations and almost 100 volunteers, including over 40 teens, contributed to the festival's success. "I am so delighted to have so many teens participate this year," said Fran Martin, Celebrate Israel committee chair. "It makes such a difference to have them here."

Celebrate Israel 2011 is scheduled for Sunday, May 22, 2011. To get involved, contact Eileen Freed at 677-0100 or eileenfreed@jewishannarbor.org.b ■

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4.

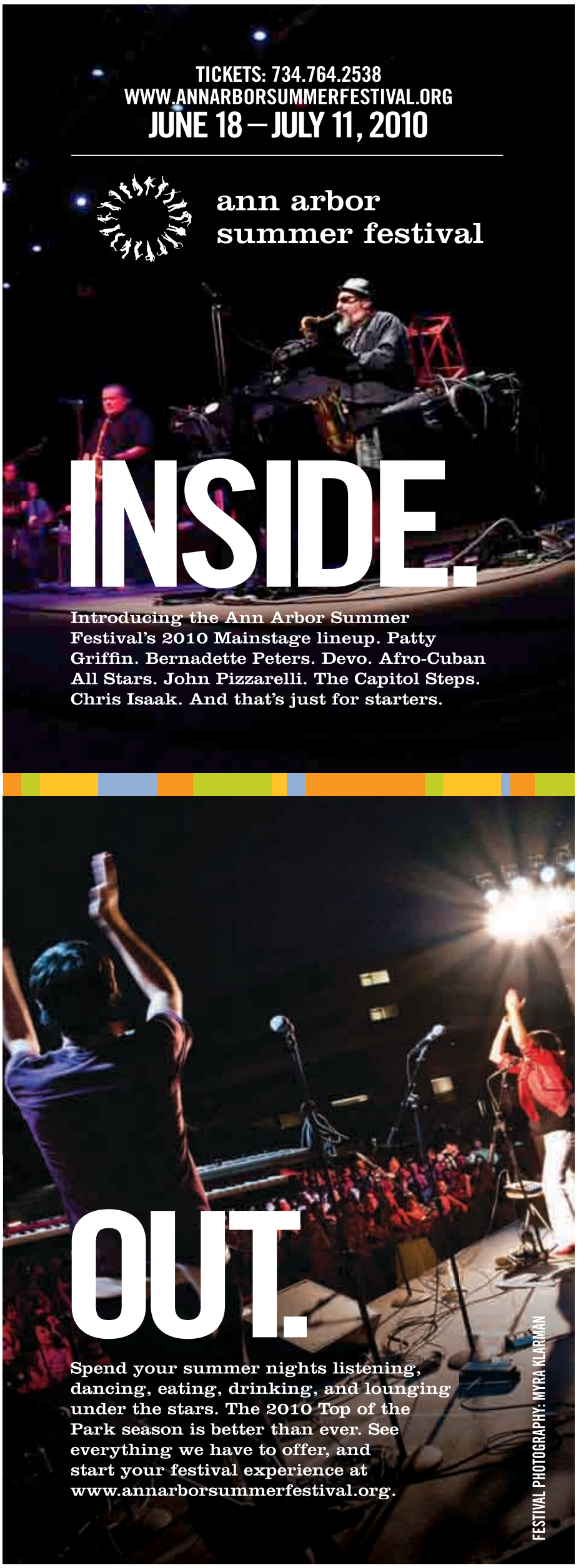
1 – Yisroel Zweibel and Dov Goldstein on the Better Place Test Track

2 – Elana Leflein, Avishag Eliav, Danielle Turner, and Adi Bamberger on the tractor at the Nahalal tent

3 – Israeli dancing

4 – Shir Chadash, Temple Beth Emeth teen choir

PHOTOGRAPHY ON THIS PAGE BY GREGORY FOX



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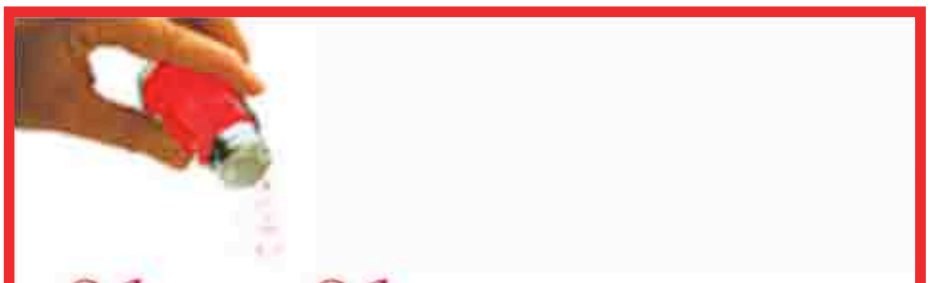

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6:00 pm – Pizza Dinner (see fees below)

7:00 pm – Free Performance

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Dinner registrations and payment are required by Monday, July 26. Kosher options are available with advance notice. Please contact Deborah Huerta at 734-971-0990 or deborahhuerta@jccfed.org for more information.

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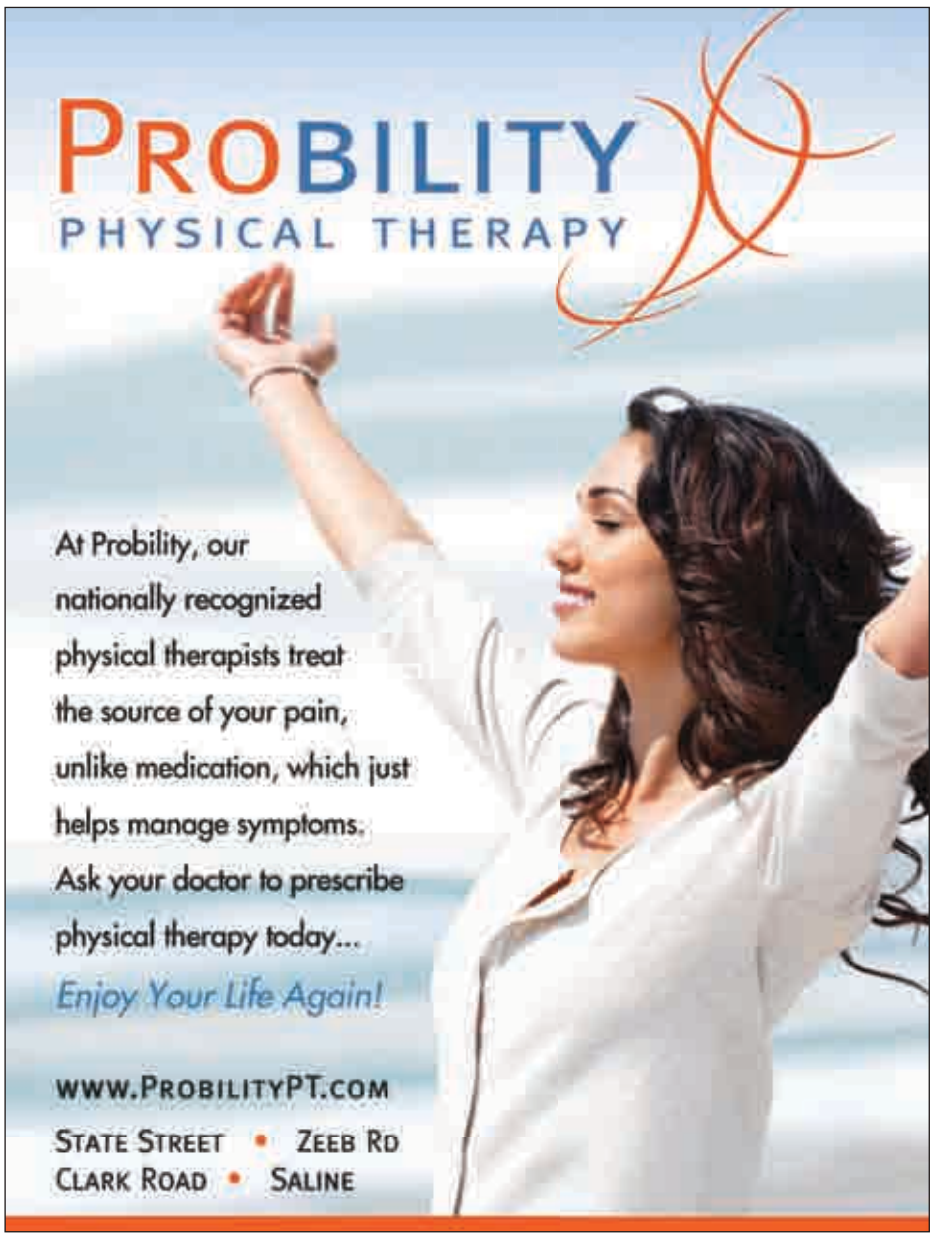

Socially responsible Jewish investing on rise in wake of Madoff

By Tamar Snyder

NEW YORK (*New York Jewish Week*)—In the same manner that she shops for locally grown produce, Abigail Weinberg chose to sidestep the bank behemoths and instead open an account at a small, local bank that invests in her Ann Arbor, Mich., community.

"I consider myself someone who wants to be socially and environmentally responsible in all areas of my life," she says.

Weinberg applies the philosophy to her investment portfolio, too. She invests directly in community development financial institutions and has money in a socially responsible index fund. And when the Jewish Funds for Justice launched its Community Investment Initiative, a socially responsible investment program aimed at modest investors, less than two years ago, Weinberg was one of the first investors.

Her $2,000 investment may not have been "a huge amount of money," says Weinberg, who used to work at the Shefa Fund before it merged with the Jewish Funds for Justice. But "it was invested with intentionality as an expression of the Jewish value of tikkun olam," or repairing the world.

As the green movement continues to gain ground within the Jewish community, many investors are re-examining their investment portfolios with an eye toward not only financial gains but also social impact. The same people who frequent farmers' markets and have switched their light bulbs to CFLs are bringing that passion to their portfolios.

Until recently, however, only Jews of high-net worth or institutional investors like the Reform Pension Board, federations and family foundations had access to uniquely Jewish avenues for ethical investing. This left individual social justice activists and even Jewish communal professionals like Jeremy Burton, senior vice president of philanthropic initiatives at the Jewish Funds for Justice, out in the cold.

For more than a decade, JFRJ has leveraged more than $30 million in loans through the Tzedec Economic Development Fund. Tzedec offers mission-minded investors the opportunity to earn a modest interest rate while supporting job creation and community development in low-income areas such as Baltimore, the Gulf Region, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, South Florida and Washington.

Tzedec currently manages $11.5 million in investments—more than doubling the amount in the last five years.

The minimum investment is $18,000, but as demand for socially responsible investment options increases, Jews of more modest means now can invest to achieve social impact in a Jewish way.

In 2008, JFRJ partnered with the Calvert Foundation to launch the Jewish Funds for Justice Community Investment Initiative, which allows American Jews to participate in community investment by lending as little as $1,000.

More than $120,000 has already been invested through this program.

"It's nascent, but it has a lot of potential as a vehicle for smaller investors," Burton says, adding that he has invested his own money in the fund.

Socially responsible investing, also known as ethical investing, has seen a boon in recent years.

One of every $9 under professional financial management in the United States is involved now in socially responsible investing—investments that take into consideration not just the financials but also the social and environmental consequences of investments.

Within the faith-based world, socially responsible investing dates back more than 200 years, with Quaker immigrants arguing against investing in war and the Methodists managing their money using what is known in modern investment lingo as "social screens."

Religious mutual funds today have $26 billion in collective assets, according to the Social Investment Forum Foundation. Most of these funds screen out or avoid investing in businesses that make money from tobacco, gambling and other "sin stocks" that violate their religious values.

Ave Maria's Catholic Values Fund was started at the insistence of Tom Monaghan, the owner of Domino's Pizza and a devout Catholic. The fund screens out companies involved in activities that the Catholic Church is against, such as abortion and pornography.

The Amana Fund invests according to Islamic principles, avoiding firms that derive more than 5 percent of revenues from pork, alcohol, gambling, pornography or tobacco.

No corresponding Jewish SRI fund exists, says Jared Pfeifer, a doctoral candidate at Cornell University whose work focuses on the intersection of finance and religion.

Yet Mark Schwartz, associate professor of law, governance and ethics at York University, believes that one may come onto the scene in the near future. Many challenges are expected, such such as who would be on any screening committee for the Jewish mutual fund, what their qualifications would be and whether a a majority of Jews would accept the qualifications.

"This is particularly the case in the Jewish community, where there is great diversity of beliefs regarding many matters, including acceptable investment practices," Schwartz says.

The Jewish community, however, has been an active force in the world of community investing, a form of SRI in which investors lend funds, often at a below-market interest rate, to support affordable housing and other initiatives that benefit traditionally underserved communities.

In 1997, the Union for Reform Judaism began actively promoting ethical investing among its membership. And, more recently, the URJ has encouraged congregations to join the Chai Investment Program by investing 1.8 percent (a play on the numerical value of "chai," or life, which is 18) of its assets in community development.

In addition, the Reform Pension Board, which serves professionals in the Reform movement, was the first Jewish organization to join the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility.

"The awareness of our financial industry's relationship to real people on the ground is heightened in a way it hasn't been in years," Burton said. "Suddenly, people are viewing banks not just as the place where they happen to have a checking account. They want to see how that money creates jobs and makes a difference for real families locally."

In light of the stock market losses of 2008 and the Madoff affair, individual investors are increasingly open to the idea of measuring their returns in ways that are not solely financial.

"There's a lot more interest in what we call a triple-bottom line: financial profits, social impact and environmental responsibility," Burton says. ■

U.S. communities building ties to Haiti

By Larry Luxner

PETIT-GOAVE, Haiti (JTA)—Not a single Jew lives among the 170,000 inhabitants of Petit-Goâve, nor among the 20,000 refugees from Port-au-Prince who have crowded into this town since a magnitude-7.0 earthquake leveled Haiti's capital in January. But Jews are among those helping bring Petit-Goâve back to life.

"After what I saw in Port-au-Prince, where it's so overwhelming you don't know where to start, Petit-Goâve was where I found hope," said Riva Levinson of Temple Rodef Shalom in Arlington, Va. Levinson visited Haiti last month, and her Reform congregation recently formed a partnership to raise money for the area through Children & Families Global Development Fund, a charity run by Lola Poisson, wife of Haiti's ambassador in Washington, Raymond Joseph.

The American Jewish World Service has raised $5.2 million for Haiti quake relief and is working through organizations here that it's been supporting for the last 10 years.

It's one of numerous efforts launched by synagogues across the United States as a response to the disaster. With the summer rains on their way—and with them a growing threat of the spread of waterborne epidemics like typhus and malaria—it's more critical than ever.

Last month, Levinson and Poisson surveyed firsthand the damage wrought by the quake, which killed an estimated 230,000 and left millions homeless. The two women plan to return to Haiti in late May along with Archbishop Bernardito Auza, the Vatican's top diplomat in Haiti. "We want to get the whole congregation involved beyond just donating money," explained Levinson, a management consultant who has done work in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, including a 10-year stint in Angola during that country's civil war.

"What we're hoping is that Rodef Shalom will turn this into a mission trip for adults and teens—helping not only with their money but also their hands," she said. "This is an opportunity to mobilize everybody: engineers, doctors, young people."

The January 12 quake wrought utter destruction in Petit-Goâve, located 42 miles west of Port-au-Prince. Eight days later, a 5.9-magnitude aftershock had its epicenter here. Nowadays, U.N. peacekeepers from Brazil and Spain guard the entrance to the town, which resembles a war zone.

"Many of our people are now sleeping in tents outside," said Luc Philogene, a priest who spent 19 hours trapped under the rubble of his church before being rescued. "The shelter suffered severe cracks and cannot be repaired. It will have to be knocked down and completely rebuilt."

Michael Shochet, Rodef Shalom's cantor, said he wants to help the town recover, but that his shul can't do it alone. "Our hope is to work with one of the larger organizations in the community, such as the Union for Reform Judaism or the federation here in Washington, or the American Jewish World Service," he said. "One small congregation is not going to be able to raise a significant amount of money, but the Reform movement has raised a huge amount for Haiti relief and hasn't allocated all the funds yet. That's what we need."

The Union for Reform Judaism has raised $1.2 million for Haiti relief so far. Naomi Abelson, the group's congregational relations manager, said the need in a town like Petit-Goâve, where 1,000 people were killed, is critical.

"It's much more obvious in a small, rural village where there aren't as many U.N. representatives and nonprofit groups," said Abelson, who toured Petit-Goâve along with Levinson and Poisson. "The leaders of these communities have been through so much themselves. I think we'll be able to provide them with the resources they need."

Just outside Port-au-Prince, on a torturous dirt road in the capital's devastated Delmas district, an orphanage named Project Papillon cares for 28 children, seven of them HIV-positive. Since 2006, the orphanage has been funded jointly by Temple Beth El and First Presbyterian Church, both of Hollywood, Florida.

"We felt that since South Florida is geographically so close to Haiti, we are called upon through our respective religious traditions to respond to Haiti's very dire needs," said Rabbi Alan Tuffs of Temple Beth El. The synagogue and the church have raised more than $125,000 in the last four years; that money has helped finance a separate house for HIV-positive orphans, as well as a school and dental care for all 28 children. Tuffs says he's planning to take a group of up to 20 Jewish volunteers to Haiti in July for a four-day work-study program. "People have been generous in their support," he told JTA. "The trick is to keep them interested once Haiti starts fading from the front pages, which has already started happening."

Abelson said she'd like to send groups of Jewish volunteers to Haiti under the auspices of URJ's Adult Mitzvah Corps. But that's not likely to happen immediately. "At this moment, Haiti is not set up for unskilled volunteers," she said. "There's certainly a need, but it's going to take a few months to get there," Abelson added. "We may take a trip as a movement, or we may encourage our individual congregations to do that, and help them connect with valuable projects on the ground."

Of course, synagogues aren't the only Jewish groups helping in Haiti. Jewish federations across North America have raised more then $5.5 million so far for Haiti. That money is going to support the work of partners on the ground, including the IDF field hospital that operated immediately after the quake, IsraAID and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The JDC has financed 120 water tanks to provide Haitians with about 300,000 gallons of drinking water every day and is partnering with the ProDev Foundation to operate 10 temporary schools for 2,000 displaced children.

The American Jewish World Service has raised $5.2 million for Haiti quake relief and is working through organizations here that it's been supporting for the last 10 years.

"Fortunately, we were in a very good position to make an impact quickly," AJWS spokesman Josh Berkman said. "We're not doing large infrastructure projects and bringing in shipping

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The Ann Arbor Symphony 2010–2011 season

Sandor Slomovitz, staff writer

The Ann Arbor Symphony recently wrapped up perhaps its most successful season ever. Despite the poor economic climate in Michigan, and in the face of the enormous difficulties and challenges that many local arts organizations are facing, the A2SO's season ticket sales were higher than ever this past season. That's a testament to the excellence of the music and musicians the orchestra continues to offer year after year, to the inspiring leadership of Musical Director and Conductor Arie Lipsky, to the efficiency, resourcefulness and creativity of Executive Director Mary Steffek Blaske and her terrific staff, and of course to the music lovers and arts patrons of our community. Bravo and kudos to all!

And now of course, it's time to start preparing for an encore, the 2010–2011 season. The Symphony will kick off its season in September with a return to Hill Auditorium and will help celebrate the Bentley Historical Library's 75th Anniversary with an all Made in Michigan concert, featuring local luminaries, composers and musicians alike. A few highlights of the celebration of Ann Arbor and the State of Michigan: the A2SO will accompany world renowned, Pulitzer Prize winning composer, Bill Bolcom and his wife, mezzo soprano, Joan Morris in a series of Bolcom's songs. Another distinguished U-M Music School faculty member, composer Bill Albright's *Slight of Hand Rag* will receive its premiere. Michael Daugherty's *Trail of Tears*, co-commissioned by several orchestras, including the A2SO, will receive only its second performance. The concert will conclude with Saint-Saëns' *Symphony No 3*, the "Organ Symphony." No, Saint-Saëns was not a Michigander, but organist Steven Ball, is, as is the featured instrument, Hill Auditorium's magnificent organ, which was built in Detroit.

Roman Rabinovich

October brings back the Symphony's annual Beethoven Festival and will include the *Prometheus Overture, the Piano Concerto No. 4*, with young New York pianist, Adam Golka, a recent winner of Western Michigan's Gilmore Festival Competition, at the keyboard, and conclude with the composer's *Symphony No. 2*.

November brings the Strings on Fire concert, which guarantees plenty of fine, fiery playing. Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No.5* will feature Ed Parmentier on harpsichord, Kathryn Votapek, the A2SO's associate concertmaster, and Penelope Fischer the only non-string player, the orchestra's principal flutist. Rounding out the concert will be Dvorak's *Serenade for Strings*. Last year the orchestra played Tchaikovsky's Serenade, possibly the most famous serenade written for a big string orchestra, but Dvorak's work ranks a very close second.

In November the A2SO is also offering something for children and families, an afternoon concert highlighting two of most beloved pieces for young people in the classical repertoire, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, with the Festifools Puppets (they of the "hugemongous" papier-mâché puppets that have been marched around downtown on a Sunday early in April for the past few years, as Ann Arbor's welcome to spring) providing a unique twist to this classic, and Benjamin Britten's *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, with a surprise celebrity narrator.

January's annual Mozart Birthday Bash returns to the Michigan Theater this season, after last year's unforgettable performance of Mozart's Requiem at Hill Auditorium. The *Sinfonia Concertante for Violin, Viola and Orchestra* will draw on the not inconsiderable talents of U-M School of Music faculty, Yehonatan Berick on violin, and Rebecca Albers on viola. The concert will conclude with Mozart's famous *Linz Symphony*.

March will bring Romance rather than Madness, with an all-Russian program, highlighted by one of the biggest war horses of the classical piano orchestra repertoire, the Rachmaninoff *Piano Concerto No. 3*. Arie Lipsky has a very special relationship with the young musician who will occupy the pianist's bench for this concerto. Rabinovich, now in his mid twenties, recently won the Rubinstein competition in Israel, and is completing his studies at Juillard, after having also attended the Curtis Institute of Music. Rabinovich first came to Maestro Lipsky's attention when he was only eight years old. "I started crying when I heard him play," says Lipsky now. Lipsky encouraged and mentored the Azerbaijani child prodigy ever since, and predicts a huge career for him.

The A2SO's season concludes with the April concert performance of Mahler's *Symphony No. 3*. Next year is the 100th anniversary of Mahler's death and the A2SO will join many orchestras around the world who will be commemorating the event with special programming. The *Symphony No. 3* is, in true Mahler fashion, a big piece and will include the Women of the UMS Choral Union, the Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, and mezzo soprano and chair of the Department of Voice at the U-M's School of Music, Melody Racine. Somehow, they'll manage to fit all those musicians on the stage of the Michigan Theater, and if you get your tickets early, you can be among the lucky ones to also fit into the A2SO's upcoming season. ■

June 2010

Tuesday 1

Music Appreciation Class: JCC Seniors. Music Appreciation with Laura Dunbar, Education and Community Outreach Coordinator of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. 9:30–11:30 a.m. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990. *Through June 8.*

Photo Exhibit: JCC–Jewish Cultural Arts and Education. Exhibit featuring works of Nancy Margolis with photographs of synagogues around the world. Exhibit runs through June 15 during regular business hours. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at 971-0990 or email mimiweisberg@jccfed.org. *Through June 15.*

"Beyond Never Again: How the Holocaust Speaks to Us Today:" Jewish Learning Institute. Spring semester course. Facilitated discussions enabling participants to articulate personal responses to the Holocaust, while providing relevant angles on some of life's most difficult questions pertaining to faith and suffering. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 2

The Bible in Its Time: JCC Seniors. With Dr. Liz Fried. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class. *Through June 16.*

Thursday 3

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Performance and Birthday Celebration: JCC Seniors. Birthday celebration for all with June birthdays, featuring lunch and birthday cake for family and friends at 12:30 p.m. Followed at 1 p.m. by UM Group "Ring of Steel," the largest theatrical combat, stunt, and special effects troupe in the country plus the fight/stunt arrangers for the Michigan Opera Theatre.

Hebrew Text Study Class: BIC. "Tracing the Motifs of the Akeda." With Ilan Rosenberg. 6 p.m. *Also June 9 and 16.*

Judaism in June: JCC–Jewish Cultural Arts and Education. Four-week mini-course led by Dr. Michael Weiss. Topics for the month include: "From the Maccabees to the Pharisees;" "Was Jesus a Rabbi;" Splitting Off: How Christian Jews Became Christians;" and "Jesus' Jewish World." $60/JCC members; $65/non-members. For information, contact Mimi Weisberg at mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or by phone at 971-0990.

Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 4

Grandparents and Special Friends Shabbat: JCC Early Childhood Center. Children are encouraged to invite grandparents or special friends. Culminates week-long focus on Shabbat as a study unit featuring ritual items made by the children. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat, Dinner and Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. followed by songs and popsicle oneg in the Social Hall.

Senior Sendoff Shabbat: TBE. Sendoff of Class of 2010. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at tend of calendar.*

Saturday 5

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 6

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, plus an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Closing Event: Hadassah. Ann Arbor Chapter closes out 2009-10 year with "Sole of Hadassah" event honoring board members Maxine Solvay and Barbara Bergman. Sole Sisters, the shoe and accessory store, will bring shoes, handbags, jewelry and other items for a fashion show at the JCC. Portion of sales donated to Hadassah. $5/light brunch. RSVP to carynstairs@charter.net or phone 424-1701. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Wine, Women and Song: JCC. Local women celebrities and stars perform classical, jazz, and cabaret standards joined by Jerry DePuit at the keyboard. Refreshments prior to performances at 4 p.m. $5 in advance or at the door. For information, contact Merrill Poliner at merrill_poliner@jfsannarbor.org or phone 769-0209.

Presentation: BIC. "From Jerusalem to Guatemala–The Amazing Story of the Site of Beit Loya (Lehi)." Presented by Israeli archaeologist Oren Gutfeld, PhD. 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 7

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Spring Dinner: ORT. Annual event of Ann Arbor chapter of ORT America. Dinner at Quarter Bistro at 6 p.m. Donors will be honored, along with Naomi Harrison, who has been an active member and supporter since the Ann Arbor chapter was founded. $36/dinner. For information, contact Lisa Saulles at hsaulles@umich.edu.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 7 p.m.

Torah Fund Event: BIC Women's League. Honoring Rabbi Kim Blumenthal. 8 p.m.

Talmud Class: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 8 p.m.

Tuesday 8

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Beyond Never Again: How the Holocaust Speaks to Us Today:" Jewish Learning Institute. Spring semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Wii Fun: JCC Seniors. Intro to Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. 1 p.m. For information, call Merrill at 971-0990.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

"Writing Your Wisdom:" JCC Seniors. Four-session writing group that provides weekly prompts to draw out stories from the past and glean wisdom from the present. Registration required. For information or to register, phone Merrill at 971-0990. *Through June 29.*

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 9

The Bible in Its Time: JCC Seniors. With Dr. Liz Fried. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class. *Through June 16.*

Annual Meeting: TBE. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 10

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Health Check and Discussion: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m. a registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address questions. This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.

Judaism in June: JCC–Jewish Cultural Arts and Education. *See June 3.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 11

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by songs and popsicle oneg at 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 12

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m., followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m. and Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. Tot Shabbat. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Canoe Trip and Potluck: TBE Twenties and Thirties. Meet at Argo Park Canoe Livery at 1 p.m. for potluck. Canoeing from 2–4 p.m. For information or to participate, contact Rabbi Lisa Delson at 665-4744 or email ldelson@templebethemeth.org.

Rosh Hodesh Program: BIC Women's League. 4 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 13

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Brunch: JCC. Honoring outgoing board members, voting for new slate of nominees, and reports from committee chairs on past year's events. For information, phone 971-0990. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Bus Tour: Jewish Historical Society. Award-winning tour of historic Jewish Detroit including the important places, synagogues, and neighborhoods, from the Riverfront to the Dexter-Davison area. Tour departs at 12:30 p.m. from Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 27375 Bell Road, Southfield. Tour returns approximately 4:30 p.m. $25/JHSM members; $30/non-members. For information, phone 248-432-5517 or email jhsofmichigan@msn.com.

Annual Picnic: TBE Renaissance Group. At home of Ronnie and Stu Simon at 5:30 p.m. $5/person plus dish to pass. Reserve by phoning Joan Kadis at 222-4814.

Calendar

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 14

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing*.

Board Meeting: TBE Brotherhood. 6:30 p.m.

Board Meeting: TBE Sisterhood. 7:30 p.m.

Talmud Class: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 8 p.m.

Tuesday 15

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m.; $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

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"Beyond Never Again: How the Holocaust Speaks to Us Today:" Jewish Learning Institute. Spring semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 16

The Bible in Its Time: JCC Seniors. With Dr. Liz Fried. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class.

Family Fun Night: JCC Early Childhood Center. Celebrate with pizza, ice cream sundaes, bouncers and games. Special performance, exclusively for children enrolled in ECC and their families, by musical duo Gemini to celebrate the bridging of all kindergarten-bound children. 6–8 p.m.

Caregiver Conversations: JFS. A monthly drop-in educational and support group for adult children in a variety of caregiving roles for aging parents. This month's conversation is "Pharmaceuticals and Your Aging Parent." 6:30–8:30 p.m. RSVP to Abbie Lawrence-Jacobson at abbie@jfsannarbor.org or by phone at 769-0209.

Thursday 17

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Meet the Social Worker: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m., Allison Pollock, JFS Geriatric Social Worker, will be available for discussion, questions, and assistance. At 1 p.m., Rabbi Kim Blumenthal of Beth Israel Congregation will be available for discussion and presentation.

Judaism in June: JCC–Jewish Cultural Arts and Education. *See June 3.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 18

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by songs and popsicles at 6 p.m.

BBQ Shabbat Dinner: TBE Brotherhood. Reserve at www.templebethemeth.org or call 665-4744. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 19

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m., followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 20

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Hike: Jewish Hikers of Michigan. Hike at Parker Mills Park. For information, contact Eli Avney at phone 883-9522 or see www.templebethemeth.org for details and map. 11 a.m.

Annual Congregational Meeting: BIC. 7 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 21

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245

Pam Byrnes

Democrat for State Senate, District 18

"It has been our pleasure to see Pam in action as she represents the district and the state's interest. She has demonstrated great commitment, a complete grasp of the issues and an ability to get things done. Pam is a public servant in the best sense of the term."
--Sharon and Chuck Newman

Please vote in the August 3rd Democratic Primary
www.pambyrnes.com

Paid for by Friends of Pam Byrnes, 17381 N. M-52, Chelsea, MI 48118, Kent Brown, Treasurer

South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. 7 p.m.

Tuesday 22

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Beyond Never Again: How the Holocaust Speaks to Us Today:" Jewish Learning Institute. Spring semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Wii Fun: JCC Seniors. Intro to Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. 1 p.m. For information, call Merrill at 971-0990.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 23

Thursday 24

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Presentation: JCC Seniors. Presentation on "Assessing Obama" by Jeffrey Bernstein, Eastern Michigan University Professor of History. 1 p.m.

Judaism in June: JCC–Jewish Cultural Arts and Education. *See June 3.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 25

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, songs and popsicle oneg at 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 26

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m., followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar*

Sunday 27

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Library Book Club: BIC. Facilitated by Nika Bareket. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 28

Tuesday 29

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Beyond Never Again: How the Holocaust Speaks to Us Today:" Jewish Learning Institute. Spring semester course. Facilitated discussions enabling participants to articulate personal responses to the Holocaust, while providing relevant angles on some of life's most difficult questions pertaining to faith and suffering. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 30

July 2010

Thursday 1

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Presentation and Birthday Celebration: JCC Seniors. Birthday celebration for all with July birthdays, featuring lunch and birthday cake for family and friends at 12:30 p.m. Followed at 1 p.m. by retired Ann Arbor police officer Rich Kinsey who will tell stories about his police career.

Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 2

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat, Dinner and Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. followed by songs and popsicle oneg in the Social Hall.

Barbeque and Barchu: BIC. Hamburger and hotdog barbeque followed by Kabbalat Shabbat Services. 6 p.m.

Summer Shabbat Services: TBE. Summer services are led by different congregants weekly through mid-August. Services last about 45 minutes and are followed by an oneg Shabbat. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 3

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 4

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, plus an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tuesday 6

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Thursday 8

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Health Check and Discussion: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m. a registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address questions. This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month. At 1 p.m., representatives from Paws With a Cause will discuss their various programs and demonstrate some of the assistance their animals can provide.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 9

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by songs and popsicle oneg at 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 10

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 11

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Presentation: BIC. Dr. Naomi Feuchtwanger-Sarig will present "Jewish Identity and the Beginnings of Modern Jewish Art." 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 12

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Calendar

Tuesday 13

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m.; $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wii Fun: JCC Seniors. Intro to Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. 1 p.m. For information, call Merrill at 971-0990.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Wednesday 14

Thursday 15

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Discussion: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m. JFS social worker Allison Pollock will be available for questions and discussion. At 1 p.m., Marie Pierce of Ann Arbor Hospice will discuss the Hospice concept.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 16

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by songs and popsicles at 6 p.m.

Summer Shabbat Services: TBE. Summer services are led by different congregants weekly through mid-August. Services last about 45 minutes and are followed by an oneg Shabbat. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 17

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 18

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Caregiver Brunch: JFS. Potluck brunch and facilitated conversation about any and all caregiving concerns. Bagels will be provided. A monthly drop-in educational and support group for adult children in a variety of caregiving roles for aging parents. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. RSVP to Abbie Lawrence-Jacobson at abbie@jfsannarbor.org or by phone at 769-0209.

Hike: Jewish Hikers of Michigan. Hike at Matthaei Botanical Gardens. For information, contact Eli at jewish.hikers@gmail.com or phone 883-9522 or view www.templebethemeth.org. 11 a.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 19

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Women's Torah Study: TBE. Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 7 p.m.

Tisha B'Av: BIC. Tisha B'Av Ma'ariv Service and reading of Eicha, the Book of Lamentations. 9 p.m.

Tisha B'Av: Chabad. Services at 9:40 p.m.

Tuesday 20

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Tisha B'Av Services: Chabad. Morning services at 7:30 a.m. Afternoon and evening services at 8:15 p.m.

Tisha B'Av: BIC. Shaharit Service at 8 a.m. Mincha Service at 2:30 p.m.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 21

Thursday 22

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Picnic Lunch: JCC Seniors. Lunch at 12 noon and reminisce about summer and participate in summertime activities at 1 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 23

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, songs and popsicle oneg at 6 p.m.

Summer Shabbat Services: TBE. Summer services are led by different congregants weekly through mid-August. Services last about 45 minutes and are followed by an oneg Shabbat. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 24

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 25

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Summer Café: BIC Women's League. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 26

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Tuesday 27

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wii Fun: JCC Seniors. Intro to Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. 1 p.m. For information, call Merrill at 971-0990.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 28

Israeli Scouts Performance: JCC. Using song, dance, and storytelling, the Israeli Scouts celebrate Jewish heritage and bring sights and sounds of Israel to life. The Friendship Caravan is part of a larger delegation of approximately 100 Scouts who travel to North America each summer. Pizza at 6 p.m. Performance at 7 p.m. $6 per person for dinner for JCC members and camp families; $18/per family. $8/community members; $24/community families.

Thursday 29

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Presentation: JCC Seniors. Ben Pollock, MSU Professor of Religion, will present "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People: Jewish Responses." 1 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 30

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Barbeque and Barchu Two: BIC. Followed by an Outdoor Singing Kabbalat service. 6 p.m.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, songs and popsicle oneg at 6 p.m.

Summer Shabbat Services: TBE. Summer services are led by different congregants weekly through mid-August. Services last about 45 minutes and are followed by an oneg Shabbat. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 31

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, songs and popsicle oneg at 6 p.m.

Summer Shabbat Services: TBE. Summer services are led by different congregants weekly through mid-August. Services last about 45 minutes and are followed by an oneg Shabbat. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

August 2010

Sunday 1

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, plus an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 2

Women's Torah Study: TBE. Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 7 p.m.

Tuesday 3

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including Mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Thursday 5

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Presentation and Birthday Celebration: JCC Seniors. Birthday celebration for all with August birthdays, featuring lunch and birthday cake for family and friends at 12:30 p.m. Followed at 1 p.m. by Annie Rose, Cantor of Temple Beth Emeth, who will discuss Jewish spirituality.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 6

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by songs and popsicle oneg.

Pet Shabbat: BIC. Followed by Kabbalat Shabbat Services at 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 7

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 8

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Detroit Jewish History Cruise: Jewish Historical Society. Sail with the JHS of Michigan for an afternoon cruise highlighting sites of Detroit and Jewish interest. Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the Rivard Plaza dock at Rivard and Atwater Streets in Detroit. Cost includes cruise and refreshments. $25/members; $20/children. $30/non-members; $25/children. $5/children under 6. For information, phone 248-432-5517 or email jhsofmichigan@msn.com.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 9

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing*.

Tuesday 10

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m.; $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wii Fun: JCC Seniors. Intro to Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. 1 p.m. For information, call Merrill at 971-0990.

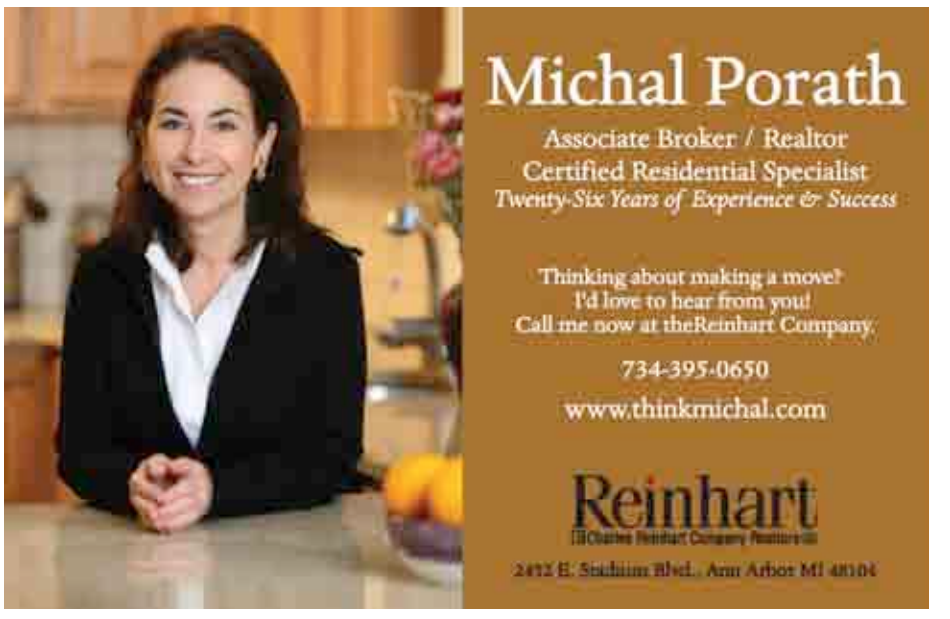
Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Thursday 12

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Health Check and Discussion: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m. a registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address questions. This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month. At 1 p.m., beat the heat and hear a presentation about an Alaskan cruise.



2010

Apples and Honey

Sunday, August 29

12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the JCC

FESTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Jewish Organization Displays
- Special Welcome to Ann Arbor Newcomers
- ECC Holiday Bake Sale
- Dip Apples and Honey
- Lunch Available for Purchase
- Vendor Displays
- Camp Raanana Reunion

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- Face Painting
- Inflatable Slides and Jumpers
- Clowns
- Hands on Judaic Activities for All Ages
- Make Your Own Shofar
- Challah Braiding

Advance reservations are required.
To RSVP or for more information call 734-971-0990.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY THE BENARD L. MAAS FOUNDATION

A community celebration that fights hunger where we live

GRILLIN' 2010

A BENEFIT FOR FOOD GATHERERS

Sunday, June 13, 3-8 PM (rain or shine)

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds / 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road

A picnic with a purpose!

- Gourmet sausages, grilled chicken, vegetarian dishes, delicious desserts and more!
- Live bands featuring the musical talents of Abigail Stauffer, Bull Halsey, George Bedard and the Kingpins, and Jamie Register and the Glendales
- Food inspired silent auction
- Fun for kids of all ages hosted by the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum
- Cash beer and wine

Tickets

Purchase tickets online at www.foodgatherers.org or call us at 734.761.2796.

Additional ticket sales locations: Zingerman's (Deli, Bakehouse or Roadhouse), Saline Picture Frame Co. and Dexter Picture Frame Co.

Tickets: $50/Adults ($40 tax-deductible)
$10/Kids ages 3-13 ($7 tax-deductible)

Tickets at the door: $60 Adults/$10 Kids

...our roots run deep!

Donors to the Feast

Afternoon Delight; Al Dente Pasta Co.; Ann Arbor YMCA Chain of Plenty; Arbor Beverage Company; Arbor Brewing Company; Arbor Springs Water Company; Boyajain; Briess Malt & Ingredients Co.; Cafe Zola; Calder Brothers Dairy, Inc.; Casey's Tavern; Coffee Express; The Common Grill; Dawn Foods; The Earle; eve; Exotic Cuisine & Bakeries; Everyday Wines; Fabulous Food; Food Art Catered Affairs, Inc.; Food Gatherers Community Kitchen; Food Gatherers Community Kitchen Job Training Program; Grange Kitchen & Bar; Guernsey Dairy; Knight's Steak House; Kuster's Dairy Food Service; Leelanau Wine Cellars; Mediterrano; Monahan's Seafood Market; Nielsen-Massey Vanillas; O & W, Inc.; Produce Station/Frog Holler Produce; The Quarter Bistro & Tavern; Red Hawk Bar & Grill; Scharffen Berger; Shalimar Restaurant; Simply Scrumptious Catering; Tios Southwestern Café; United Meat & Deli, Inc.; West End Grill; Wholesome Sweeteners; Zingerman's Bakehouse; Zingerman's Community of Businesses; Zingerman's Creamery; Zingerman's Delicatessen; Zingerman's Roadhouse

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www.foodgatherers.org

Calendar

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 13

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by songs and popsicles at 6 p.m.

Musical Kabbalat Service: BIC. In the tradition of Joey Newhouse. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 14

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Session on the new High Holiday Machzor. 12 noon.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of talendar.*

Sunday 15

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday*.

Monday 16

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Women's Torah Study: TBE. Led by Cantor Annie Rose. 7 p.m.

Tuesday 17

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Thursday 19

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Discussion: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m. JFS social worker Allison Pollock will be available for questions and discussion. At 1 p.m., staff from Packard Health will present on prevention of and managing diabetes.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 20

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, songs and popsicle oneg.

"Take the Time to Experience the Magic of Shabbat:" BIC. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Saturday 21

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at end of calendar.*

Sunday 22

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Israel Fun Fair: BIC. 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 23

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Tuesday 24

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wii Fun: JCC Seniors. Intro to Wii sports. No experience or physical expertise necessary. 1 p.m. For information, call Merrill at 971-0990.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Thursday 26

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Weekly special events and guest presentations (see description below); Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Presentation: JCC Seniors. Ann Arbor Transportation Authority will be on hand to explain the Senior transportation options available. 1 p.m.

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 27

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Shabbat in the Park: BIC. At County Farm Park. 6 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 28

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 29

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Apples and Honey: JCC. Annual family event bringing together many local Jewish organizations to provide information about their purpose and to educate participants about upcoming holidays. Many children's activities including bouncers, games, shofar blowing, and arts and crafts. Also clowns, face painting, and balloon animals. Israeli food, kosher baked goods, and lunch will be available for purchase along with gifts and Judaica items. Newcomers Booth will welcome new JCC members and new arrivals to the community. Registration required at 971-0990. Noon–3 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 30

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Tuesday 31

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. Wii sports including bowling, tennis and baseball. No sports or computer experience required. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

High School Students Dinner: BIC. Annual dinner at Rabbi Blumenthal's home. 6:30 p.m.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. Facilitated by Roann Altman. 8 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Shabbat Candlelighting

June 4	7:45 p.m.
June 11	7:49 p.m.
June 18	7:52 p.m.
June 25	7:53 p.m.
July 2	7:53 p.m.
July 9	7:50 p.m.
July 16	7:46 p.m.
July 23	7:41 p.m.
July 30	7:34 p.m.
August 6	7:26 p.m.
August 13	7:16 p.m.
August 20	7:06 p.m.
August 27	6:55 p.m.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by Shira at 6 p.m. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. 6:15 PM at the JCC the last Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Tot Shabbat with optional kid's pizza dinner at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. For information, call 913-9705, email info@aarecon.org or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle-lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. Morning childcare from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Havurah. Discussion-based format with topics changing monthly. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Morning service, 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study at 8:50 a.m. Chapel Service at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. Call the office at 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah (AARH)
P.O. Box 7451, Ann Arbor 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

EMU Hillel
965 Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti 482-0456

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

U-M Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Google generation, continued from page 12

Still, he has often yearned to take his Sabbath observance to the next level.

"For years I've thought about keeping a full Shabbat but never did it," Becker said. "So [the National Day of Unplugging] really captured my imagination and served as a rallying cry for me."

He lit candles, drank wine, went outside with his family and enjoyed the quality, uninterrupted time with his wife and two children.

The 10 principles that comprise the Sabbath Manifesto have been debated, discussed and dissected online. For example, does unplugging from technology conflict with the decree to connect to loved ones? How can people find silence if they live in the heart of a city? What's so special about drinking wine and eating bread when we can do that any other day of the week?

Reboot hopes that other people feel the same. To continue the momentum from its National Day of Unplugging, Reboot has devised the ongoing Unplug Challenge.

The challenge recommends that people unplug once a week, or even just once a month—whatever feels reasonable for them—and experience a 24-hour period without the hum of technology, be it sundown to sundown or even on a Sunday.

A few "celebrity" Rebooters have taken the Unplug Challenge: Humor columnist Joel Stein wrote about his experience in *Time* magazine, and actor Josh Radnor of "How I Met Your Mother" will soon write about his experience on the *Huffington Post*.

The Sabbath Manifesto is one of several tech-free initiatives popping up these days.

The owner of Actual Cafe in Oakland turns off the Wi-Fi every weekend, an experiment intended to revive the kind of social atmosphere that existed before wireless connections and laptops.

Intel in Santa Clara established "Zero Email Fridays" in 2007. The policy doesn't entirely ban e-mail on Fridays, but does encourage employees to meet face to face that day of the week.

AdBusters magazine recently sponsored Digital Detox Week as a way to encourage its tech-savvy readers (and others) to cut back on digital stimulation and take time to reflect.

There also has been some renewed focus on slowing down in the wake of the recently *published The Sabbath World: Glimpses of a Different Order of Time*. Author Judith Shulevitz not only looks at the Christian and Jewish Sabbath historically, but also reflects on her own struggles with Shabbat.

"In this tech-drenched society, the notion of the Sabbath, or even of a day of rest, has been lost," said Tanya Schevitz, a former San Francisco Chronicle reporter and now Reboot's San Francisco program coordinator.

At the same time, technology is playing a key role in helping the Sabbath Manifesto's Unplug Challenge gain traction as more people find out about the initiative online.

"We recognize irony," Schevitz said, "that we've used technology to shut down technology because it was the best way to get the word out." ■

Obama, Jewish lawmakers discuss Israel

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—President Obama exchanged views with Jewish Congress members on his relations with Israel and discussed strategies on how to counter the perception that he is not pro-Israel.

"We discussed Iran, the situation in the Middle East, the efforts of the Republican Party to distort President Obama's positions on Iran and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict," Rep. Steve Rothman (D-N.J.) said afterward.

The 90-minute meeting at the White House on May 18 drew 37 of the more than 40 Jewish members in both houses of Congress.

"The conversation included an update on proximity talks and administration efforts to strengthen Israel's security, including the administration's recent decision to provide Israel with an additional $205 million in funding for the Iron Dome missile defense system," a White House statement said, referring to Israel's short-range missile defense program.

Also discussed was the announcement earlier the same day that the Obama administration had rallied support from world powers for a new set of sanctions on Iran.

Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.), who had criticized the Obama administration for openly pressuring Israel after tensions intensified in March over Israel's settlement building, said it was a frank discussion that was initiated by the White House.

"It was a very frank and good talk," he said. "The president said he'd like to continue this."

Engel called it a "mistake to publicly air grievances against Israel, while at the same time they were silent on things the Palestinians had done to undermine the peace process. We questioned why this had to happen. When allies have disagreements as they usually do, it has to be behind closed doors."

Rothman, an early backer of Obama's presidential candidacy, said the members thanked Obama for such initiatives, describing Obama as "the best president on U.S.-Israel military and intelligence cooperation in American history."

Much of the talk was about how to spread the word about such assistance to counter claims by Republicans and others that Obama is not pro-Israel, Rothman said.

Engel said he couldn't blame the Republicans for seizing a natural opening.

"You can't blame the Republicans for trying to move in and take advantage of something," he said. "If there hadn't been a chastising of Israel, it wouldn't have given the Republicans an opening."

Heading into November midterm elections, Engel said, "We've got to make sure that everyone knows the bond is unbreakable."

Not present at the meeting were two of Congress' three Jewish non-Democrats: Rep. Eric Cantor (R-Va.) and Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.).

Attending, however, were some of Obama's toughest critics in the wake of tensions in March between Israel and the United States over settlement building: Sen. Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.), Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-Nev.), among them.

Berkley told the Associated Press that she emerged believing Obama is on Israel's side, but that he needs a better understanding of the nuances. "I do want to see the president step up and vocalize his support for Israel far more than he has," Berkley told the AP in an article resdistributed by her office. ■

ZAKA expanding Arab units

By Amy Klein

(JTA)—At the scene of terrorist attacks, accidents and even homicides, most Israelis are used to the sight of ZAKA volunteers—Orthodox men working to save lives or recover body parts of the dead. What they may not know is that ZAKA, Israel's Orthodox-run life-saving, rescue and recovery service, also has a minorities unit comprised of Bedouin, Muslim and Druse volunteers.

Started about five years ago to serve Israel's non-Jewish communities, primarily Bedouin in the Negev and Druse in the Galilee, the minorities unit is expanding due to its success. Nearly 100 volunteers and three units will be added.

Twenty-six volunteers in two minorities units currently are among ZAKA's 1,500 volunteers, who work in coordination with Israeli government agencies on any unnatural death – be it a car accident, terrorist bombing, murder or suicide. Trained as paramedics and in first aid, the volunteers, who are on call 24/7, attempt to revive the victims and, if unsuccessful, respectfully attend to the dead.

Sheik Jaffal Abu Sabet, who has been leading the Muslim unit in the Negev for the past 13 years, says that, just like in Jewish law, in which honoring the dead is a great mitzvah, "For us it is also a great honor."

The minorities unit also functions when religious Jews cannot, on the Sabbath and holidays. According to Jewish law, Jews may violate the Sabbath to save a life, but not to deal with the dead. "It gives me faith and pride that they depend on me," Abu Sabet said of the Jews he helps. "In the end we are all people—Jews, Muslims, Christians—and we all must be taken care of the same way."

In car accidents and terrorist attacks, the police contact families. But for other unnatural deaths, it is ZAKA members who often visit the victim's home to inform the family. Having volunteers who hail from those communities helps, says David Rose, ZAKA's director of international development. "We were often the first on the scene, and the question arose about how to contact the families or deal with the families or treat the dead," Rose said of cases involving Bedouin, Druse and Muslim victims.

Now ZAKA, which started as an ultra-Orthodox, or haredi, organization, plans to increase its Druse, Bedouin and Muslim units to 125 volunteers in five units. ZAKA views its most important task in the minorities unit as dealing with the victims themselves.

"Interestingly, at the first meeting you had Jewish rabbis telling the local imams how we deal with our dead according to Jewish law, and their local religious leaders telling the rabbis how they deal with their dead," Rose said.

According to both Jewish and Muslim law it is important to treat the dead respectfully, whether it be covering the bodies so that others cannot see them or collecting every last body part for burial, including blood. "In principle, they deal with it the same way," Gadi Kellermann, chief of operations in the Negev, said of Muslim dealings with the dead. "But from an emotional point of view, it's good for Muslim families to know that there are Muslims dealing with the victims from the start." ■

Vitals

Mazel tov

Madeline Halpert on her bat mitzvah, June 5.
Claire Fendrick on her bat mitzvah, June 5.
Isaac Scobey-Thal on his bar mitzvah on June 5.
Raymond Cook on his bar mitzvah, June 12.
Adam Kahana on his bar mitzvah on June 12.
Leo Vosburgh on his bar mitzvah, June 12.
Isak Akervall on his bar mitzvah, June 19.
Alona Henig on her bat mitzvah, June 19.
Sofia Eisenbeiser on her bat mitzvah on June 19.
Lane Lesko on his bar mitzvah, June 26.
Hannah Moore on her bat mitzvah, June 26.
Nina Hendler on her bat mitzvah on August 21.
Evan Sanfield on his bar mitzvah on August 28.
Alida and Gene Silverman, on the birth of their new granddaughter, Jamie Natalle Kopstein, daughter of Leslie and Elliott Kopstein, born on Sunday, March 28.
Melissa and Adam Dorfman, on the birth of their son, Joshua Seth Dorfman, born Monday, April 12.
David and Deborah on the birth of their first grandchild, Jacob Leo Shtulman, son of Ari and Rebecca Shtulman.
Shirley and Martin L Norton on their 60th wedding anniversary, June 25.
David and Karyn Schoem on the marriage of their daughter, Adina, to Joe Vainner.

Condolences

Eileen Mollen on the death of her sister, Lisa M. Thalhimer, April 27.

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Ties to Haiti, continued from page 25

containers. We focus on community-based work, empowering grassroots organizations."

Berkman said his group already has allocated $700,000 to specific, short-term relief projects like disease prevention, social support and the removal of debris from roads.

"For the next six months, we'll be working with women's organizations and rebuilding clinics, schools, community centers and institutions that haven't been able to secure funding from other sources, or are being underserved. We're also focused on recapitalizing the agricultural sector," Berkman said. "Longer-term, our plan is to help the community shift from a disaster-response mode to economic development, helping our grantees develop network opportunities and be a central part in the rebuilding of Haiti."

Jewish Healthcare International intends to send four missions every year to Haiti in collaboration with the University of Miami's Project Medishare to help the country with chronic care, medical infrastructure, education and training.

"Most people have curtailed activities during the rainy season, but we're planning on having missions begin in earnest again in the fall," said Jewish Healthcare International's Jerry Kobrin, an ophthalmologist from St. Paul, Minnesota, who visited Haiti shortly after the quake. "Our biggest emphasis will be continuing care, and the rebuilding of hospitals and clinics. Once the medical infrastructure is re-established, Haitians will be better able to weather the storm next year." ■

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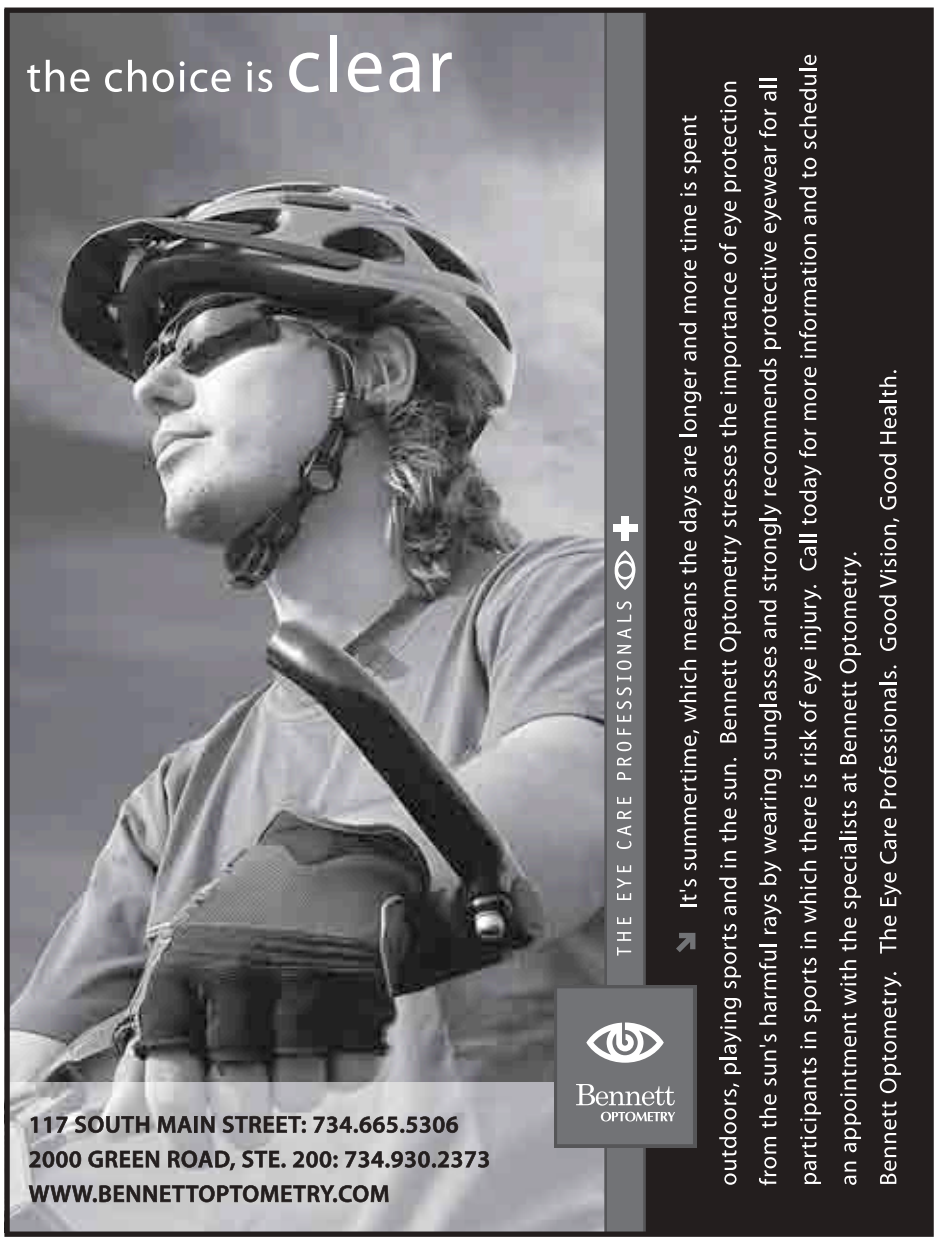

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